

American

JULY 1954

50 CENTS



• **CENTRAL PARK, NEW YORK'S BIG BACK YARD — page 8**

• **PARKS OR PAVEMENTS? — page 28**



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Volume 60
No. 7
July, 1954

American FORESTS

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PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

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COVER • The trees of Central Park, with their backdrop of stone.

THE AFA

The American Forestry Association, publishers of AMERICAN FORESTS, is a national organization—*independent and non-political in character*—for the advancement of intelligent management and use of forests and related resources of soil, water, wildlife and outdoor recreation. Its purpose is to create an enlightened public appreciation of these resources and their part in the social and economic life of the nation. Created in 1875, it is the oldest national forest conservation organization in America.

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Dunkirk 7-5391

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AMERICAN FORESTS is published monthly by The American Forestry Association at 919 Seventeenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Subscription price \$5 a year. Editors are not responsible for loss or injury of manuscripts and photographs while in their possession or in transit. The Editors are not responsible for views expressed in signed articles. Entered as second-class matter at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptable for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 10, 1918. Additional entry at Baltimore, Md., December 29, 1931. Copyright, 1954, by The American Forestry Association.

Letters

Baker Bill Opposed

EDITOR:

On facing pages in your May issue appears Mr. Besley's statement "Where AFA Stands" and your editorial "Don't Take Your National Forests for Granted." Both have reference to H. R. 8225, introduced by Congressman Baker.

As you probably know, the lumber industry is opposed to enactment of this measure because it earmarks ten percent of national forest receipts, up to \$5,500,000 per year, for a particular purpose. The language of this bill specifically states ". . . to be set apart in the Treasury as a special fund, and is authorized to be appropriated and made available until expended under such regulations as the Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe. . ." We interpret this to be an earmarking of funds.

Your editorial states ". . . not an earmarked measure, this authorization provides that the money be appropriated through regular channels. . ." I must admit inability to reconcile your statement with the language of the bill as I read it. Respectfully, let me ask the question "what does constitute an earmarking of funds?" Here we have a proposed setting aside under separate identity within the Treasury of up to \$5,500,000 per year and the money thus set aside retains its identity for a special purpose, can be used for no other purpose, and accumulates until the day of its use. How could money be more effectively or permanently earmarked? Mr. Besley reports that your Board of Directors has approved H. R. 8225. It is not my intent to dispute their judgment, but if that judgment was reached in the belief that H. R. 8225 does not earmark funds, may I respectfully suggest a re-reading of the bill.

There is no argument as far as I am concerned relative to the need for improving recreational facilities within the national forests. The problem exists and it is severe, but I part company with you as to the method of obtaining funds. It is still my opinion that a straightforward appeal to the Congress, based on facts should be relied upon to secure treatment of the problem. Further, I believe confidence can be reposed in the Congress to fairly weigh such a request with all other requests for funds. I think the record of the Congress since the day this Republic was founded well justifies the expectation that it is capable of intelligently apportioning the federal revenues in service of the public interest.

If such a straightforward approach fails to gain recognition and treatment of the need, then those who sought it, in my opinion, need to re-examine their petition in the belief that either it was not well enough presented or the need was not as acute as they had believed in comparison with other needs the Congress reckons.

As concerns Section 4 of H. R. 8225, the authority it would delegate to the Secretary of Agriculture to collect fees for recreation is already vested in that office and has been used in some instances. However, the payment of fees into a special Treasury account also provided for by this section would again, as in Section 3, constitute an earmarking of funds. Pertinent to the above is a statement which appears in your April issue and which was attributed to Carl Shoemaker. It reads:

"Earmarked funds. Of course! But we can't get it any other way. And did you ever stop to think that much of the progress made in resources development has been on the coat-tails of other legislation; in other words 'earmarked funds'?"

This is a reckless and regrettable statement in my opinion. If every special interest was able to get a law to earmark specific federal receipts for a particular purpose I suspect there would be little left to operate the federal government.

Most of the problems of this imperfect world have had their origin, past and present, in action taken upon the premise that "the end justifies the means" and seemingly in pursuit of the belief that "if you can't get it one way, get it another."

I sincerely hope the American Forestry Association has not embraced such a philosophy.

Leo V. Bodine
Executive Vice President
National Lumber
Manufacturers Association

(Editor's Note—Readers of *American Forests* who might wish to review AFA's stand on the Baker Bill (H.R. 8225) in reference to Mr. Bodine's letter will find this presentation, including the bill, on pages eight and nine of the May 1954 issue of the magazine.)

Trees Grow in Brooklyn

EDITOR:

I have just read your notice in the May issue suggesting that you would like to receive reports on the results of the *Sequoia sempervirens* seed which you distributed a few years ago.

More than one kind of tree grows in Brooklyn. Only one seedling came up from my package of seeds which I kept in a flower pot indoors until early September (having planted it in March). It has survived two winters in my backyard although each year it has looked very dead until early spring when the needles turn green again. It is now about a foot tall with about an inch of new growth. Except for a few bricks around the base to keep away neighboring cats and dogs, it has had no special protection.

(Miss) Alice L. Bennett
Brooklyn, New York

National Arboretum

EDITOR:

I cannot let the May issue of *AMERICAN FORESTS* go by without dropping a note, congratulating you upon the very fine article on the National Arboretum, which appeared therein. The American Association of Nurserymen has been very close to the development of the National Arboretum and originated its establishment, as you know, and as a member of the current Advisory Council, we appreciate public attention that *AMERICAN FORESTS* has gained for it.

Richard P. White
Executive Secretary
American Association of Nurserymen
Washington, D. C.

(Editor's Note—Organized in 1875—the same year the AFA was established—the American Association of Nurserymen which Mr. White heads has long been a constructive force for beauty in the outdoors. In fact, the organization's motto is "Beauty-Value-Service."

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Where AFA Stands

These recommendations on water policy were made by AFA Executive Director-Forster Lowell Besley to the Task Force on Water Resources and Power of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government at recent hearings

ON MAY 17, 1954, the Executive Committee of The American Forestry Association, after nearly a year of careful study and discussion by leaders of forestry and related conservation fields, including that of water, approved for submission to referendum by all its members a new Program for American Forestry. A copy of this program which is now being voted upon by our members is attached. . . .

. . . The three dozen or so conservation leaders who drew up our program last June, the 800 who discussed it fully last October at the Fourth American Forest Congress and the task forces of our Directors and our technical advisors, who refined the program for final referendum vote of our entire membership, paid particular attention to this subject of water. I should like to quote from page two of this program, one of the three important goals for forestry.

3. To obtain the maximum of economic and social services from our forests by realistic application of the principle of multiple use in their management. This should include all forest uses and services but must give great weight to national requirements in conservation of water and control of erosion.

The multiple use of land involves many adjustments between conflicting uses and benefits. The grazing of watersheds on forest-producing lands by domestic livestock or the propagation of game animals often involves such conflicts. They can be resolved only by intelligent administration, which must be charged with responsibility for determining the priorities in use on any given area.

This thought is further elaborated under the "Conservation of Water" heading of Multiple Use Policies on page five.

The conservation of water has become a problem of nation-wide importance and concern. Great sums are being expended yearly to protect watershed areas or to prevent soil erosion and sediment by uncontrolled runoff of water. The acuteness of the situation is emphasized by the increasing numbers of areas

seriously threatened by shortages of water for domestic, industrial, agricultural or recreational uses.

"We recommend recognition of water conservation as of paramount importance in the management of public forest and range lands. Public agencies should provide for:

"1—Management of timber and grazing resources to improve the quantity, quality and regularity of water flow needed for domestic, agricultural, industrial and recreational use, and to prevent and eliminate water pollution.

"2—Coordination of planning and application of watershed management and flood-prevention measures on upstream forest, agricultural, and range lands with the construction of downstream flood control and water power development projects.

"3—In federal dam and water reservoir projects, consideration of their impact on public and other lands and provision for replacement to the extent practical of impaired facilities and services.

"4—Public acquisition of forest and range lands where watershed protection and management are of very high priority.

"The Flood Control Act of 1936 and subsequent amendments passed by Congress initiated a national policy for the study and improvement of critical upstream watersheds. Reports on some 60 such watersheds have been submitted to Congress which has approved 11 of them and has authorized the recommendations for maintaining forest cover and other water conservation works. This upstream watershed program is under the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture and is now being implemented through the Soil Conservation Service and the Forest Service. The Corps of Army Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation are charged with planning downstream storage and diversion structures.

"The management of forest lands plays an important part in the success of this program. Unofficial estimates are that at least three-fourths of the total forest area, commercial and non-commercial, are of critical

importance for flood and sediment control and for surface and underground water conservation.

"It is encouraging to note that in addition to the public agencies, numerous organizations, privately sponsored, financed and managed, have become active in the fields of water conservation, flood-control and prevention of erosion and sediment damage."

These statements emphasize one essential integral part of watershed development, which has received scant attention in most of the multi-million dollar projects in water power, reclamation, river and harbor development, and indeed flood control itself in present and past federal programs calling for many billions of dollars from the Federal Treasury. This all-important phase which has been overlooked, has been the improvement of critical upstream watersheds. It is obvious that multi-purpose watershed flood control programs designed to retard flood-producing runoff and check erosion and debris movement at their source, will not only greatly reduce the downstream flood sediment and pollution problem, but will also result in cleaner streamflow and augmented ground water supplies for the upstream areas themselves. Naturally, the more regular the streamflow and the freer it is of sediment, the smaller need be the dikes to hold the lower river in its channel, the less dredging will have to be done in our harbors and navigable streams, the smaller need be our downstream dams (both because of the more regular flow and of less silting in) to store the water needed in steady supply to turn the power turbines, to irrigate our crops, to furnish our domestic water, and to serve the many other uses of water in home, industry, transportation and recreation.

During the early years of the conservation movement in the United States, particularly shortly after the turn of the century, there was a strong difference of opinion between foresters and engineers with respect to watershed problems. The

(Turn to page 57)

Washington Lookout



By ALBERT G. HALL

FEDERAL FORESTRY PROGRAMS FARED CONSIDERABLY BETTER, fund-wise, in the Congress than they did in the President's budget-balancing requests. First, the House Committee on Appropriations restored maal Aid Highway Act, the Forest Service budget; then additions were made on the floor of the House. The Senate Appropriations Committee tacked on a few more additions, and as the bill was passed by the Senate, \$60,000 was added to the blister rust fund (for technical assistance to the states). The Senate also raised the appropriation for watershed protection (Soil Conservation Service) by \$1,000,000 to a new total of \$6,000,000. Final result, pending conferees action on the bill, is a continuation at the current level of the entire state-and private forestry program for cooperative work in forest fire prevention and control, assistance to private land-owners, and federal-state nursery production. Slight reductions from 1954 levels remain in some of the regular Forest Service items, but these will be absorbed in large part by consolidation of field offices.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT'S APPROPRIATIONS BILL LIKEWISE HAS PASSED both House and Senate, with the Senate allowing the full budget request of \$3,000,000 for timber access roads on Oregon and California Revested Grant Lands, as opposed to the House allowance of \$2,000,000. The Senate also increased funds for noxious weed control on Interior's grazing lands. Park Service funds were held to \$27,880,000 by the Senate, \$587,900 less than the budget estimate, but \$1,924,000 above the amount allowed by the House.

ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR TIMBER ACCESS ROADS in the national forests are being sought in a supplemental appropriations request for Fiscal Year 1955. The Department of Agriculture appropriations bill provides \$16,000,000 for forest development roads and trails (timber access roads). A supplemental request for an additional \$6,500,000, if granted will provide a total program of \$29,000,000, including use of contract authority to the extent of \$6,500,000. Utilizing the authority granted in the recently-passed Federal-Aid Highway Act, the Forest Service plans to let contracts in Fiscal Year 1955 for \$6,500,000 worth of work, payable in Fiscal Year 1956. The total proposed program will provide \$6,500,000 for timber salvage roads in Oregon and Washington, \$9,500,000 for road maintenance and bridge replacement and repair, and an additional \$6,500,000 for urgent construction in Idaho, California, Montana and elsewhere, plus \$6,500,000 of contract obligations, payable in 1956, for the same areas. In addition, depending upon the income from timber sales, from \$6,000,000 to \$7,000,000 will be available for roads in states within which the income is derived, by virtue of the 10-percent-of-receipts from timber sales.

THE CONTROVERTED OREGON AND CALIFORNIA GRANT LANDS, which were discussed at some length in this column in June, are no longer controversial. Senator Cordon's bill (S.2225) has passed both the House and the Senate and now awaits the President's signature. It provides for continuation of Forest Service administration of the lands, but recognizes them as O & C lands for purposes of revenue sharing with the counties. It also provides for exchange of lands between the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to help block out ownerships in the presently checker-boarded pattern of federal administration.

LEASES OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE USES may be broadened to enable better utilization of national forest possibilities, through an amendment to the Act of March 4, 1915. At the present time, certain uses are restricted or impossible of establishment because of the five-year limitation on

(Turn to next page)

leasing of national forest sites. A bill, H.R. 2762, to provide leases up to 80 acres for commercial and industrial developments, public use by state and other governmental agencies, and for educational and recreational purposes, with a term limit of 30 years has been reported by the House Committee on Agriculture. The five-acre limitation for summer homes and stores is unaffected by the proposed amendment.

SALE OR LEASE OF PUBLIC LANDS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES has been broadened by an amendment to the Recreational Act of June 14, 1926. Signed by the President as Public Law 387, the measure permits the sale or lease of public lands to non-profit organizations. Sales or leases involving more than \$5000 value must have Congressional approval. The Oregon and California Grant Lands are not included in the sale provisions.

CAPITAL GAINS TREATMENT OF INCOME FROM TIMBER, included in a measure designed to encourage the ownership and development of timberlands, had been considerably altered in the House action on H.R. 8300—the revision of the revenue act. However, the Senate Finance Committee has adopted amendments in the bill which restore the present tax treatment of expenses incurred in connection with the cutting of timber and has provided, in the case of timber disposed of by lease, that the date of disposal for tax purposes is the "date the timber is cut" rather than the "date of the contract." Another Senate amendment extends the capital gains treatment to income derived from the harvest of Christmas trees. It is expected that the House will concur in these Senate amendments.

ANOTHER BILL TO PROVIDE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO THE STATES in wildlife restoration projects has been introduced by Representative Young of Nevada. It, H.R. 9510, would authorize the distribution of \$13,467,468 now in the Treasury in a special fund known as the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund. This amount has been built up over the years, since 1938, as a surplus of revenues over actual appropriations for wildlife projects. Under the Pittman-Robertson Act, the revenues for this purpose are derived from taxes on firearms, shells, and cartridges. As proposed in H.R. 9510, the fund would be liquidated over the next five years at the rate of 20 percent each year to assist in projects approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

A SOUTHEASTERN INTERSTATE FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMPACT, similar to that now in effect in the Northeast is well on its way to becoming a reality. A bill to set up the compact, S. 2786, by Senator Sparkman of Alabama has been passed by the Senate, and it is expected that the House will take similar action. The measure provides for the pooling of fire-fighting know-how, men and equipment for mutual aid among the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. Contiguous states may join later. The value of a compact of this type has been demonstrated in the Northeast in the development of regional planning, coordinated training programs, and provisions for interchange of men and equipment.

WHILE THE BAKER BILL FOR THE USE OF 10 PERCENT OF NATIONAL FOREST RECEIPTS for recreation and wildlife purposes still rests in the House Agriculture Committee, a companion bill has been introduced in the Senate by Senator Watkins of Utah.

LOANS ON TIMBERLAND UNDER SOUND MANAGEMENT, as provided in the Cordon-Ellsworth Forest Credit Act of 1953 (Public Law 285) are now being made. Two such loans, under the authority granted to national banking institutions, have been made in Mason and Clark counties, Washington. These are probably the first instances of the new loan provisions being applied. It is anticipated that once business is begun, other banks will see better the possibilities of sound investments in growing timber.

PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES ON FEDERAL LANDS AND OTHER REAL ESTATE is the subject of study of a special task force set up by the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. Headed by Arthur E. B. Tanner of Connecticut, the group will investigate some 20 systems of federal payments. There is no common standard for payments to the states, but the system known as "shared revenues" is the most common. A number of bills have been introduced to provide for more uniform systems of payment, but as in previous years, it does not appear that any of them will receive serious consideration by the Congressional committees.

EDITORIAL

Picnicking at Spring Grove

The production of a book doesn't start and end with the know-how of the author. Many other elements enter into it. James Jones, the author of "From Here to Eternity," Rachel Carson, of "The Sea Around Us," Mrs. Peter Marshall, of "A Man Called Peter," and perhaps even Col. W. B. Greeley himself, the author of "Forests and Men," might be surprised to learn that while they were laboring diligently at their desks some 700 people in the small Pennsylvania hamlet of Spring Grove were also hard at work turning out the paper their text was to be printed on.

To make this quality paper, more than a thousand small woodland owners, mostly farmers, in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, were marking and cutting thousands of trees to be sold to the paper manufacturer, the P. H. Glatfelter Company. As for the paper-makers themselves, they will stoutly tell you that just as much craftsmanship is required to produce the paper inside the covers as to produce the text itself.

To understand the pride in craftsmanship that is the trademark of these Spring Grove people, it is necessary to go all the way back to the year 1864. That was the year a young paper maker by the name of Philip H. Glatfelter, having served his apprenticeship in Baltimore, arrived in Spring Grove to launch the business that bears his name. And while his firm could fabricate less than a ton of crude paper each day, Mr. Glatfelter, from the first, was a stickler for quality and craftsmanship. In the family ever since that time, the firm grew and prospered. Today, it employs more than 700 people. When any of these people are ill or in trouble, Mr. P. H. Glatfelter II, now chairman of the board, is one of the first to know about it. The plant has never had a strike and perhaps one of the reasons is that Mr. Glatfelter has always taken an active, friendly interest in the needs of his village, county and state. An early advocate of Soil Conservation Districts, he was also the first Tree Farmer in his state and led the parade in setting up a forestry department to aid his suppliers.

One of the high points of the year in Spring Grove is the big annual picnic for Glatfelter suppliers attended by more than 1000 people. This year found Mr. Glatfelter, Senior absent for the first time. He was on vacation in sunny Spain. At the helm in his stead was Philip H. Glatfelter III, executive vice president. And since the elder Mr. Glatfelter's annual talk to suppliers on general conditions is always a feature of the picnic, people were interested in what the younger edition would have to report.

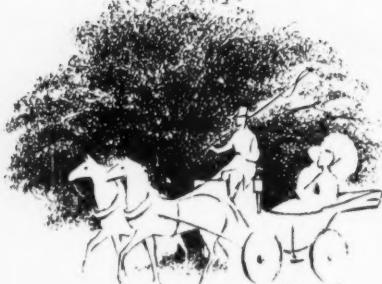
Well, they weren't disappointed. All this talk about a depression was a matter of concern to the younger Mr. Glatfelter. An optimist by na-

ture, he felt that such talk wasn't in line with the facts as far as paper is concerned. Pointing to plant improvements to be completed next month that will enable the company to hike production from 115 to 150 tons a day, Mr. Glatfelter said that his motto was full speed ahead. Over half of the paper produced at Spring Grove, the young vice president reported, goes into books. With big families on their way back, more and more young Americans are going to need more and more textbooks. In fact, the publishing world today regards textbooks as the biggest bubble in the business, he said. You keep on harvesting your trees wisely and well and we will keep on converting them into quality paper necessary for the proper education of millions of young Americans, Mr. Glatfelter said.

This made good listening to suppliers who heard him talk and who later button-holed Mr. Glatfelter for more of the same. In the only other brief address of the day, Chief Forester D. E. Hess spoke on the importance of taking safety precautions in the woods. This was followed by practical demonstrations by H. H. Jefferson of the American Pulpwood Association.

Otherwise, the affair followed the pattern of any big family picnic. There was the usual neighborly gossip and the usual exclamations over the growth rate of a bumper crop of healthy children. Entertainment was provided by a first-rate hillbilly band that played hymns and ballads with equal zest and which encouraged talented youngsters to mount the platform, amidst tumultuous applause, to sing the choruses. Exhibitions of shooting prowess, chopping and sawing contests, and other games of skill were events of the day. A display of the newest types of forest equipment received the careful attention of the menfolk. In a word, it was a mighty fine picnic and everybody had a good time from the oldest supplier present, George W. Fisher, 82, of York County, to the ladies in charge of a royal repast who seemed to face the prospect of washing more than 1000 dinner plates with cheerful unconcern.

To play hookey from a desk in Washington to attend such an affair is a rare but very satisfying experience. It renews your faith in the national health. It convinces you that there is nothing basically wrong with America. And once back, you know that out there on Pennsylvania's lush countryside and thousands of other countrysides across the nation are millions of people of good will, calm people, people who haven't lost their sense of humor; people who are proud of the firm they happen to work for, their villages and their country.



A chunk of real outdoors—trees, lakes and lawns—rimmed by the steel and asphalt jungle of the world's greatest city. A daily playground for millions, that's . . .

CENTRAL PARK

NEW YORK'S BIG BACK YARD

By CREIGHTON PEET

FEW visitors to New York City ever come to understand about Central Park. Too often in the movies they have seen boy meet girl in this Park, and perhaps take her riding in an old horse-drawn carriage, and concluded this is about all there is to it.

Actually, Central Park is an area of 840 acres of great trees, shrubbery, lawns, lakes, rocky crags, and even wild landscape still all but untouched in the very center of a city three hundred years old. And it is of tremendous importance in the daily lives of vast numbers of New York's millions. It gets such a terrific workout almost every fair day that calling it, "New York's Big Back Yard" as it once was in a musical show about the Park, is no exaggeration.

Two and a half miles long and

half a mile wide, Central Park is easily accessible to people on both the East and West sides of town—and it has something special for everyone.

Near the entrances are a score of small, fenced-in-playgrounds for small children, with swings, sandboxes, etc. Farther inside are a dozen baseball diamonds, two lakes with rowboats for rent, and an open air rink used for ice skating for six months and for roller skating or dances the rest of the time. There is also a good-sized zoo, and a cafeteria with tables on an outdoor terrace. For horseback riders there are miles of tree-shaded, traffic-free paths, and for cyclists, other miles of paved paths. On summer evenings there are band concerts, and for older visitors there is a chess and checker house with tables both inside and

under the trees, as well as a number of bowling greens where senior citizens gather to make like Rip Van Winkle.

For those who merely want to stroll, there are 57 miles of paths, with 4000 benches to sit on when they become weary. And every Saturday and Sunday hundreds sit or lie under the trees reading, sleeping, or eating.

But most important of all, Central Park takes the New Yorker out into the country for a time. As a result of a hundred year-old "invention" of Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, the landscape architects who designed Central Park, traffic is seldom seen or heard. Even in the 1850's traffic was nerve-wracking (iron-bound wheels on cobblestones), and Olmsted decided that all commercial vehicles should use four "transverse" roads. These are stone-walled channels sunk below grade and passing directly through the Park without any connections with its roads.

Today buses, trucks and many private cars use these transverse roads, which are so hidden by artful planting that visitors are seldom aware of them. Roads and paths in the Park are carried over these transverse roads on bridges. Today we would call these grade separations, but a hundred years ago, 50 years before the automobile, the transverse road was a revolutionary idea.

The need for such a Park in a rapidly growing city was first discussed in the newspapers in 1844 by such citizens as Washington Irving, William Cullen Bryant, poet and editor, Andrew J. Dowling, editor

One of the many charming bridges in Central Park. Lakes are used for ice skating in winter and boating in summer
New York Convention and Visitors Bureau photo





New York City Dept. of Parks photo

of "The Horticulturalist," and Cyrus Field, who later laid the first Atlantic telegraph cable. However, it was many years before the customary American process of haggling over the details was finished, and work could start. The rich predicted that such a Park would be "usurped by rowdies and low people," and one newspaper feared it would be lined with saloons and grog shops whose customers would use it for sobering up. On the other hand papers representing the rank and file suspected darkly that it would be restricted

"for the upper few who ride in fine carriages."

After almost a decade of argument over the site, the financing and the design, work was begun in 1856, although it was not until 1858 that a large force of men began serious operations. By 1860, however, the work had become so mired in politics that a State Senate Committee was appointed to investigate, and get things moving again. While sections of the Park were opened as early as 1857, it was not pronounced complete until 1878.

Central Park, the oasis of Manhattan Island, lies between Central Park West at left of photo and famed Fifth Avenue at right. Some of the park's most noted landmarks are: heights held by the British during Revolutionary War, extreme upper left end of photo; reservoir, top center; Metropolitan Museum of Art, a little more than halfway up at right of photo; rowboat lake, left center; and zoo, lower right.

While the site selected for the Park was wild and rugged and even "way out of town," it was by no means uninhabited, nor was it attractive. The southern section, adjacent to the land on which some of New York's finest hotels stand today, was a sort of no-man's land dotted with squatter's shacks, and covered with rubbish, broken-down stone walls, loose rock and tangled vines. The land was undrained and in many places swampy, and a report of the day found it "filthy, squalid and disgusting." The squatters indulged in such occupations as "cinder sifting, rag picking and bone boiling" not ordinarily permitted within the city limits. From this jungle some 300 "dwellings" were removed as construction progressed.

The only major construction already in the Park was some distance farther north—the Reservoir, forming a large lake which had been

Convent, and from 1861-65 it was a hospital for Civil War soldiers. In the gay 90's it was a roadhouse, and for a time the management had a custom of presenting the first sleigh load of customers to arrive after the first snow of the year, with a magnum of champagne! Today a winding road runs through Magowan's Pass, and the only reminder of the tavern is a small plaque on a bench.

That Central Park still exists in its entirety here in 1954 after almost a hundred years of diligent effort by all sorts of promoters, is something of a phenomenon.

From the very first the sight of so much "vacant" land attracted people with all sorts of projects. Those who have wanted to cut the Park up into building lots have been easy to slap down, but those operating under the guise of patriotism, civic pride, or culture, have been more of a problem.



Photo by the author

Miles of special bicycle paths in the park make bike riding safe—and fun



Photo by the author
Carefully-tended bowling green is favorite with oldsters

built some 20 years before. This is an essential part of the city's water system.

The northern section of the Park, which was originally, and still is today after a hundred years, far more wild and undeveloped, with some of the largest trees, held the only building of any importance or interest. This was the Black Horse Tavern built by Jacob Dyckman, Jr., in 1748, but better known as the Widow Magowan's Tavern, located rightly enough in Magowan's Pass through which ran the original Post Road to Boston. The Widow's tavern burned once and was torn down once, but was rebuilt and flourished until 1915.

In 1752 the Colonial Assembly met there during the smallpox epidemic, and from 1776-83 it was the headquarters for the British troops holding the rocky heights along what is now the northern boundary of Central Park.

From 1847-58 the Tavern was used by the Mt. St. Vincent Academy and

Olmsted—a remarkable man who worked on the Capitol in Washington and designed scores of parks and public buildings all over America, had very specific ideas about Central Park. He insisted that it have as much wild, untouched terrain as possible—forests, meadows, lakes, cliffs, etc. Many of the famous parks of Europe, such as Versailles, he pointed out, had become so filled with statuary, and their planting was so geometrical and artificial, that they no longer fulfilled what he conceived was a park's greatest function for the city-dweller. This was to make it possible for him to slip temporarily into natural surroundings, where trees, grass and winding paths would make him forget the stony regularity of streets and the racket of traffic.

In laying out Central Park Olmsted used the natural contours of the land as much as possible. Swampy areas were dredged into lakes, drainage was organized, and many new types of trees were imported from all

over the world, but paths were made to twist and turn, and no straightaways were permitted in the carriage roads—for a reason no longer important—to prevent the racing of trotting horses.

One of the first major assaults on Central Park was a plan to put Grant's Tomb there. If this had succeeded, following generations of military and political heroes would have been buried there until the place would have become a vast cemetery—and the football, baseball, boating, skating, dancing and horse-back riding now enjoyed by millions would have been impossible.

One of the most spectacular attempts to take over Central Park was in 1892, when a group of racing operators quietly got legislation passed in Albany to allow a 70-foot wide speedway for trotting horses right through the Park. This almost succeeded, but when the newspapers got word of it they really went to town. Indignation mass meetings were held, prominent citizens denounced the idea, and when the workmen arrived to build the raceway they were threatened with physical violence by angry citizens.

Those were the days before newspapers were timid and libel-conscious, and on March 18, 1892 the *New York Times* said the project was "monstrous and intolerable," and would not be approved "by a single New Yorker of standing or in-

telligence." As for those sponsoring the raceway, the paper said, "a statesman who was brought up to regard a pig in the parlor as indicative of social position is not going to trouble himself about a trotting track in the park."

Important in getting the legislation repealed 39 days after it was approved, were many labor organizations from the lower East Side, whose indignation put real fear into Tammany. The Park was regarded as the poor man's summer vacation, while trotting horses were strictly for the wealthy.

At other times suggestions have been made to put a steamship and a full rigged sailing ship on the reservoir lake, hold a world's fair in the Park, cut the lower half up into building lots, move the Metropolitan Opera into the Park and, more recently, hollow it out and build a vast garage under it.

The problem of gifts of statuary presented by well-meaning patriotic or literary groups has been still harder to cope with and, it must be admitted, Central Park does have its share of long-forgotten heroes in bronze and stone—but on the whole succeeding generations of Park Commissioners have kept the landscape much as Olmsted intended it should be.

The battle to keep commercial establishments and, in fact, any sort of building at all in the Park to a minimum, also has been successful. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, on the Fifth Avenue side, has been there almost since the park was laid out, and is regarded as a special case. Another building, the Tavern on the Green, a city-operated restaurant, also meets with general approval. It was originally a sheepfold, housing sheep which kept the lawns trimmed in the days before power mowers.

Another building going back to the beginning was "The Ladies Refreshment Salon," which, down the years became a restaurant until the late Mayor Jimmy Walker turned it into the Central Park Casino an ornate and expensive nightclub. This drew so much indignant criticism that at the end of the Walker reign it was demolished and a children's playground built on the site.

Generally speaking, the idea has been that while a few buildings are essential in the Park, they should not be seen, so whenever possible they have been located in odd spots and well camouflaged with planting. Nothing must destroy the effect of the natural landscape—although, of

course, since Olmsted's day the Park has become rimmed on three sides with 20-story apartment houses. Once, however, the Park had a superintendent who had other ideas. He felt that the most wonderful sight in the world was that of the Sixth Avenue Elevated trains rounding the high curve at 110th Street, and cut vistas through the trees so people could get a good look. When the Park Commissioner discovered this he was furious and started a planting program to fill in these vistas.

The Central Park terrain is extremely rocky, with many bald ridges and knobs, and a good deal of top soil was added in certain places to support the planting needed. Nevertheless a great variety of vegetation has always thrived there with very little care. Today there are some 20,000 full-grown trees, chiefly elms, maples, oaks, lindens and planes, in the Park, but many of the older trees

are not doing too well, and oaks, maples and beeches, among others, will not be replaced.

While they all thrived equally well in the Park at first, the vast increase in the City's population which brought millions of children climbing through every inch of the Park, and the gases from oil burners and motor vehicles, have given the vegetation a rough time these past 50 years.

A two-track subway was tunneled diagonally under the northwest corner of the Park in 1903, a four-track line dug just outside the western boundary in the 1930's, and every few years new water, gas, electric or telephone connections pass under some portion of the Park. All of these things seem to disturb the normal course of growth, despite the best scientific care.

About the hardiest tree yet discovered for the Smog Age, and one



Photo by the author
Boating is a popular way of escaping the sweltering summer heat

which may even possibly like carbon monoxide, is the *Ginkgo biloba*, or Chinese Maidenhair tree, which has also had considerable success in Washington, D. C., and Cincinnati parks. This tree matures in about 100 years, and lives to be about 250.

Another tree which has proved successful in Central Park is the *Phellodendron amurense*, or Asiatic cork tree. In place of beeches, which do not seem to care for modern life, the American hornbeam is being planted.

Vandalism is a big problem in Central Park today, as it is in all American parks, and Park Commissioner Robert Moses, who has so tremendously increased New York City's park facilities during his 20 years in office, has announced himself in favor of the European system of dealing with this problem. This is to make the parents of a child caught sawing up a park bench or tearing the branches off a tree, responsible.

For New York's Three Hundredth Anniversary, some years ago many big department stores and wealthy



What is a park without children?

individuals gave Central Park substantial numbers of young trees and shrubs. There were, for example, 875 flowering Japanese cherry trees, 650 flowering crabapples, 50 magnolias, 75 forsythias, etc. Many of these, which were but four or five feet high were broken off at the roots by children. Realizing that these

damaged trees would never be able to make a new start in a heavily-used park, they were dug up and temporarily replanted on Rikers Island in the East River, where the Park Department has a big nursery. When they are around eight feet high and have a fighting chance, these trees will be brought back to Central Park.

Today some 300 men are assigned to Central Park, but most of them work at keeping it clean, or as attendants in the zoo, the boat houses or the skating rink: very few are gardeners. The great increase in the population which has resulted in a large number of new parks to be manned in all parts of the city, has left little money for anything more than strict maintenance. Most major improvements in recent years have come from private donations.

The cost of Central Park has been variously estimated because tracts were bought under different conditions at different times, but an accounting made in 1886 when the city was being asked to spend \$30,000,000 on other city parks, provides a dramatic answer not only to the question of its cost, but its value to the city.

Approximate figures showed that cost of the land for Central Park was \$6,000,000; construction and maintenance to 1886 was \$16,000,000; and interest on the money to that date was \$21,000,000. This amounted to a total of \$43,000,000. However, taxes collected from the wards in which the park is located had totaled \$110,000,000 up to 1886. Deducting the estimated increases in taxes due to ordinary increases in land values — \$50,000,000 — leaves \$60,000,000.

This increase, less the \$43,000,000 cost of Park, leaves \$17,000,000.

The report then concludes, "the city thus acquired this domain for nothing, with an enormous increase in the tax income from the districts in its neighborhood besides." It was also pointed out that before the Park was built these wards contributed but 1/13th of the city's taxes, whereas at this time (1886) they paid 1/3 of all the expense of the city, even though the taking of the ground had removed 10,000 lots from the tax books of the city.

So desirable was land facing the Park, in fact, that in the 1880's and 90's Fifth Avenue was lined with great mansions built by big industrialists. An example of the growth in value of one specific plot is found in the records concerning a piece of

(Turn to page 63)

New-York Tribune.

NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1882—TWELVE PAGES.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

TREATY. THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

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A THUNDEROUS "HANDS OFF THE PARK!"

BIG MASS-MEETING OF ALL CLASSES OF CITIZENS
—A COMMITTEE TO GO TO ALBANY AND
DEMAND THE REPEAL OF THE
SPEEDWAY ACT.

Voice was given at Cooper Union last night to the sentiment of the citizens of New-York in favor of making permanent the temporary safety of Central Park from invasion by the owners of trotting horses. The meeting was called to show the Legislature that all classes of people are aroused and incensed at the trick to tear from Central Park a large part of its beauty and usefulness so that blooded horses may have a soft road in the heart of the city on which to be speeded. A big sign over the platform read: "We will not stop till the law is repealed," and this formed the keynote of every address. The evils of the speedway measure were rehearsed in detail and the audience was made to feel that never before had it been so deeply sensible of the pricelessness of the great pleasure resort, and that not until then had it fully understood just what havoc and devastation would be done to the place if the driveway seven feet wide were constructed. The speakers represented various walks in life. There were rich men who own fast horses, but who are content with the present facilities for driving them; there were laboring men, and others between these two extremes. All present men to the meeting and all voices sounded the devotion for Central Park and the determination that it should not be transmitted to future generations shorn of much of its pride.

THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

The meeting did not begin and end in talk.

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Copyright: 1882: By T. London, March 25.—I
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Lyle F. Watts

They Never Retire

*An American Forests Profile

WHEN Lyle F. Watts stepped down as Chief Forester two years ago after 38 years with the Forest Service he returned to Portland, Oregon, in his native Northwest. However, his "retirement" to 5650 Sandycrest Terrace in the City of the Roses was very temporary. Like thousands of other professional and business leaders, Mr. Watts quickly showed that the word "retirement" is mostly a figure of speech in the American language these days. The Izaak Walton League promptly signed him up for special work. More recently Mr. Watts was called in to serve as chairman of the Interim Committee to study Oregon's water resources. Other assignments continue to beckon. In a word, Mr. Watts continues to be a very busy man.

Watts is known to thousands of people in the United States due to his long career with the Forest Service, including nine-and-a-half years as Chief. It is not uncommon to hear people remark "What does Lyle Watts think" of such and such an issue or subject. And while Former Chief Watts has been very actively engaged in the Northwest in a variety of undertakings, the fact dawned on AMERICAN FORESTS recently that not too much has been heard from him nationally since he left the Washington, D. C. scene. Accordingly, it was decided to ask Mr. Watts how he views his long career in the Forest Service in retrospect and what his opinions are on forestry progress today.

First asked what he regards as the main achievements in the Forest Service during his tenure as Chief, Mr. Watts replied, "Shortly after becoming Chief, I decided that management of watershed and range lands in the national forests must be brought up to the high level of timber management we had attained in the previous 40 years. As a result, we started to bring our house in order, so to speak.

"The ground for this new policy had been laid by the comprehensive study of the western range published in 1936 (Senate Document 199, 74th Congress, 2nd Session). This work, prepared by a corps of Forest Service specialists, among whom I was one, revealed the fearful deterioration of the range, much of which was in national forest, and the urgent need for restorative and above all recuperative measures.

"I was convinced that we couldn't continue to overstock and overgraze without inviting more devegetation

and erosion, and in many areas watershed ruin. Although the reduction in cattle numbers on critical ranges wasn't popular with stockmen—to say the least—we stubbornly stuck to the policy. Opposition reached a climax shortly after the end of the war, when the stockmen, with the help of some members of Congress, tried to pass legislation to stop us. But our forest supervisors carried on, with the backing of the Secretary of Agriculture, and sometimes in the face of personal harassment and vilification.

"In ten years we effected a reduction of more than 20 percent in annual month-use by cattle of national forest range. The reduction should have been larger, but in my opinion it constitutes a substantial record, and has helped to build up many ranges and halt the ruin of important watersheds.

"The second major policy change which I sponsored as Chief Forester was to increase the timber cut on the national forests, working circle by working circle, and bringing it up, wherever possible, to sustained-yield levels.

"During the depression of the 30's the lumber industry had insisted that the Forest Service should not cut much of its timber, in order to reserve the market for private owners. Recognizing the validity of this argument, the Service under President Hoover originated the policy of selling national forest timber only where it was needed to keep local sawmills in operation. When we entered the war demands for lumber skyrocketed, and pressure mounted to open up national forest stands. The Forest Service threw all its available energies into its job of helping to win the war. During the years 1943-52 the national forest timber cut jumped from one and one-half billion to nearly five billion feet annually, without impairing sustained yield. Had Congress given us adequate money to build access roads, the annual harvest could have risen to six and one-half billion feet.

"Thus, the policy inaugurated by Gifford Pinchot that national forest timber should be held in reserve to cushion the shock resulting from overcutting of private lands was an eminent success. Without the heavy contributions of the national forests, the shortage of sawlogs would have been far more acute.

"The third major policy change during my tenure as Chief dealt with the administration of the Forest Service. (Turn to page 52)

Pure stand shows even-age management of white fir and beech



AMONG the many favors which Providence has heaped upon Italy's Arno Valley and the whole region of Tuscany is a landscape which enchants all travelers and nearly defies the graphic arts to convey. Indeed, some of the world's finest painting has for a background this rich and rolling land of terraced hills, cultivated and cared for like gardens right from the little winding valleys up toward the gently curving crests where the indefinable silvery-grayish-blue foliage of the olive imperceptibly fades off into the haziness of sky and hill beyond. The familiar trio of field, forest and pasture which our own rougher land requires is here blurred nearly to extinction by an arboriculture which has few equals. There are seemingly endless orchards of fruit and rows of poplar, mulberries, walnuts, whole square miles of olive, and elms over which the grapevines are trained to grow. Between and around them lie the little fields of wheat and barley, corn, potatoes and clover.

The Trees of Vallambrosa



Stand of white fir, 80 to 100 year age class, at Vallambrosa

By HENRY KERNAN

Nor can one tell for sure where the villages end and the open country begins, for the farmers, with their boundless craving for land and work, have burst away from these ancient centers of medieval life, the church, square and castle, and spread abroad a patternless co-mingling of farmsteads and cottages, hamlets, barns and other signs of intense and aged tillage.

Delight in work and play has touched Tuscany like a magic wand. It touches the swarms of children in the village streets; the women busy at their doorsteps with their needle-work and with gossip in the mellifluous Italian tongue; the men reaping the grain or plowing behind their sleek white oxen. Even the donkeys pull their carts and carry their burdens with a sturdy gusto

High on the list of favors Providence has heaped upon Italy is the romantic and mountainous region overlooking the Arno Valley southeast of Florence

as if they enjoy the plentiful Italian sunshine and the abundance of their bells, ribbons and silver trimmings.

In spite of such intense cultivation of the land, both farm and village life have a certain relaxed and pleasant disorder. It is not the sloppiness of waste, but the informality of patch-worked roofs and the family wash hung low in the streets to the dismay of tall and unwary strangers. Along every casement and around every dooryard are displayed in old tin cans the geraniums which all Italians love. Mother hens bring out their families in old packing-crates and geese waddle freely about wherever the anserine whim may direct.

An Italian friend once told me of his sufferings in prewar Czechoslovakia.

"In six months," he said, "I never saw so much as a loose nail or heard a creaky gate. No wonder I was glad to be home again."

Yet the desolation of this land once moved the ill-starred Roman Tiberius Gracchus to undertake his valiant but none too thoughtful career of agricultural reform.

But even Tuscany has wild and forested parts. I discovered this fact while relaxing, or rather collapsing, upon a bench amidst the heat and welter of downtown Florence, the provincial capital. After a morning of sightseeing, I had to rest, remove my shoes, and consult a brochure as to what to see next.

"Vallambrosa," the brochure read, ". . . . a romantic and mountainous region southeast of Florence overlooking the Arno Valley. Striking scenery, century-old forests. . . . an ideal retreat from the heat of the city. Take a bus at"

Being a forester and farmer at heart, I was aboard the said bus the next morning. It was still early morning when the bus left me on a forest road and, with a promise to return late that afternoon, disappeared around the bend. Ahead was a sign pointing toward a steep trail and "Monte Mignaio." Lacking another choice, I took the trail and soon had no regrets.

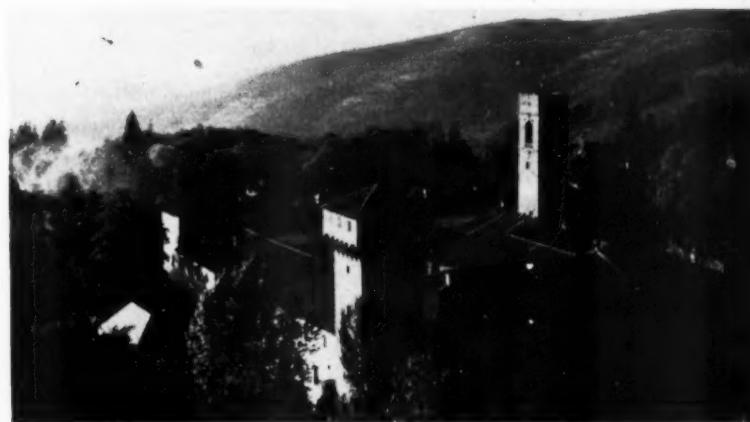
The day was a gusty one and patches of black clouds were chasing each other over the sky and trailing rays of sunshine which, breaking through from the blue above, were lighting with a golden glow the far-off valley. Around was a forest, dense, trim, and betraying by the even-aged blocks the hand of careful management. The trees were principally white firs. Their straight boles and neat grooming are much like

our own balsam fir, but the foliage is somewhat darker and denser. The bark is not gray, but so white that the name is not merely a descriptive approximation but an actual fact. The white fir is the "tannenbaum" of central and northern Europe, and the original Christmas tree of song and legend. In these Appenine hills only the most painstaking silviculture keeps it growing. But such trouble is small matter to wood-starved Italians. They pay high prices for the soft, white and brashy wood. They consider the native pines rather as weeds and are eager to replace them wherever the deeper mountain soils and higher rainfall allow.

In eight hours of walking I saw no wildlife more interesting than blackbirds. The streams were several, but not large. Even a fingerling trout would have to stand on his head to get a drink.

The trail soon took a downward dip and the orderly rows of fir gave way to a mixed forest of sprouting hardwoods. They were such familiar stems as oak, basswood, ash, maple, ironwood and elm. They appeared much as they do in a cutover woodlot in the Northeast U. S. except for the lack of super-annuated wool trees which are the delight of coons and woodpeckers. Perhaps the dearth of wildlife is not surprising after all.

Again the trail turned upward,



This picturesque Benedictine monastery is Vallambrosa landmark

Only five percent of Italian forests are state property and Vallambrosa's 3630 acres are among the finest. They lie principally on the west side of a narrow ridge between 2240 and 4320 feet elevation. They yield around a million board feet of lumber each year besides quantities of fuelwood, poles, posts, Christmas trees, water and tourist attraction. Fifty foresters and woodsmen receive steady employment, and the government a net annual income of over \$80,000.

Grazing is excluded; and so are hunting and fishing. I was not so much surprised at this prohibition as at the apparent necessity of repeating it every few hundred yards along the trail on large metal signs.

this time to cross another belt of fir and enter the high, windy and humid range of the beech. Here we have a weird tree indeed. The bark is a blotchy gray, the leaves a glossy green, and the limbs both crooked and gnarled, as if only late in life and then half-heartedly does the beech decide to become a timber tree. After a century it may produce no more than one first-rate log.

Nevertheless the beech forests of Europe have a long and important part in nurturing our race and culture. In their shade for untold centuries did our ancestry herd their swine and gather their winter food of mast. Our own word "book" is a reminder that they first wrote upon the bark of beech trees—a custom

that has by no means died out, as a visit to our parks will show.

The state forest of Vallambrosa extends only to the north-south ridge of Sacchieta. On the other, the eastern side, a most striking change comes about. Here the shepherd, the charcoalburner and the woodcutter take over; and with the help of thin soils, torrential winter rains,

were on the move; the woodsman's ax was silent, and far below in the village of Monte Mignaio not a soul was astir. Here and there over the landscape a spire of thick white smoke was rising from a charcoal kiln, and toward the nearest of these I took my way.

Nearby their work three woodcutters were taking a noonday rest.

They eyed me rather intently and asked of my nationality. At the word "America," bags and baskets began to open, and soon more food was before me than I could politely or comfortably eat after my feast of blackberries.

All three of the workers had the swarthy skins and full, regular features familiar in our own "Little Italys" from one end of the country to the other. They also had the hunger and taciturnity of tired lumberjacks the world over. Nonetheless in response to my interest they began to tell me of their village and their lives as part-time shepherds, woodcutters and farm laborers.

"Part-time," they said ruefully, "because we do not have enough land or work to go around. With the help of the Ministry of Labor we are building a road to Vallambrosa and a community house. But still we need more work and more ways to make a living."

The way back led through a large tract of chestnut trees whose fruit, at this season, was just beginning to ripen. Such chestnut groves have been a mainstay of rural life in



Section of forest ravaged by fire, cutting and grazing

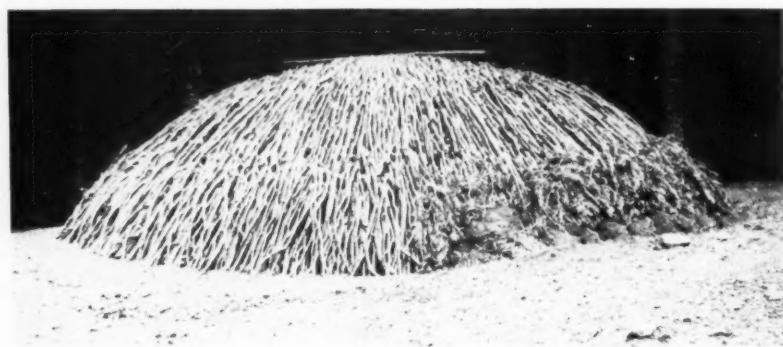
fire, and an abundance of aggressive and thorny shrubs, they wage a war of destruction upon the forest growth. Yet the devastation they have wrought here is but a part of the general havoc done to forests and watersheds from one end of Italy to the other. Such ineptitude in managing their uplands is all the more amazing in view of the valleys where millions of trees are tended with the utmost of loving care.

The east side of Sacchieta then is a scrubland of beech sprouts and hawthorn thickets. Between them weave, in endless profusion, trails of the donkey and sheep. No less telling of long overuse are the little round terraces half dug into the mountainside where charcoal burned in kilns of long ago.

The scenery was still magnificent and the flora no less interesting. Wildflowers like Queen Anne's lace, fireweed, goldenrod, St. John's wort, Joe Pye-weed and buttercup appeared on all sides. Best of all were the blackberries. There were loads of them and they were dead ripe.

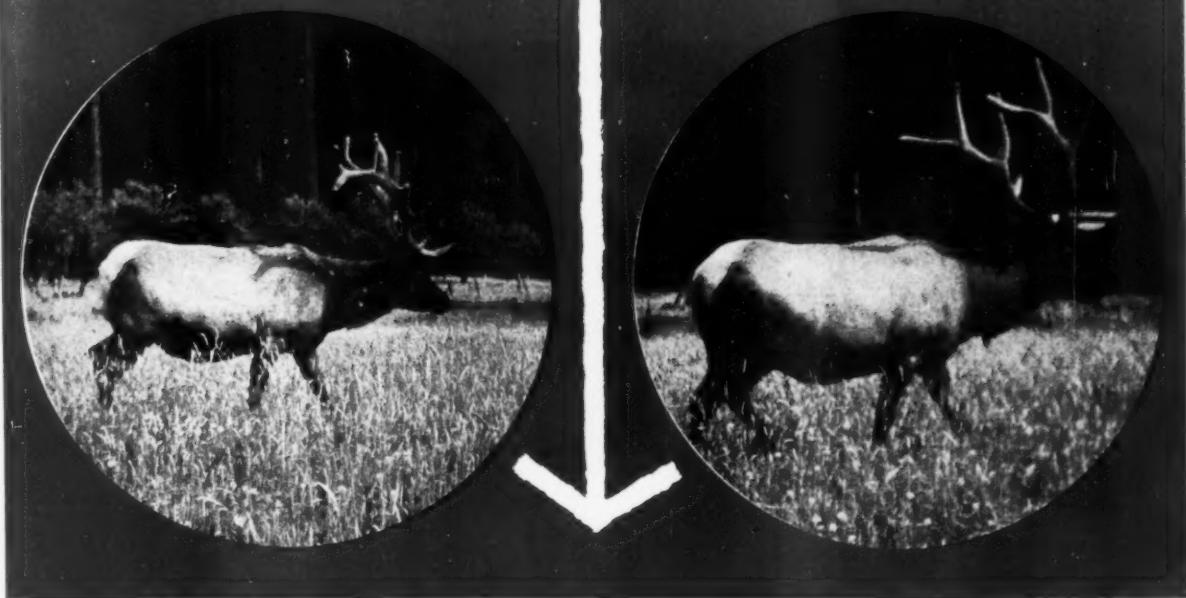
High noon had now come. The August sun was pouring down a full force of heat and the last cloud had blown over the horizon. No donkeys

Pile of beech faggots to be used in charcoal burning



This sod hut belongs to a family of charcoal burners





THE CALIFORNIA ELK

If a species of wildlife becomes extinct, something that has been built up by the slow process of evolution has gone out of the world forever.

By 1895, the vast herds of elk that had once roamed the San Joaquin Valley in California had been reduced by needless slaughter to a little band of 28. Realizing that conservation is the major challenge of our time, the state of California does not intend to allow the elk now living in the Transition Life Zone of the northern counties, to go the way of the native grizzly bear—to extinction.

There are two species of elk in California—the Roosevelt elk, *Cervus roosevelti*, and the tule or dwarf elk, *Cervus nannodes*. Their natural history, their time and mode of breeding, are much the same as formerly—calves are born in the spring, usually one, although twins are not uncommon and triplets rare. The calves are spotted, and remain so until the winter hair grows out.

Because of persecution, the California elk had to abandon his old habit of lying out in droves, standing about in open water, wallowing overlong in mudholes, and migrating

By CHARLOTTE B. NORRIS

over well-worn trails. But in spite of wholesale outrage, his species has suffered less from a forced change of habitat than most of the large game animals. This is because he is the most omnivorous of all vegetarians, browsing happily on many varieties of deciduous trees and bushes, grazing in meadows, and enjoying wild dry feed equally well.

While the tule elk is quite small, the Roosevelt elk stands about 14 hands high. But unless he is unusually fat, he seldom weighs over 800 pounds, and usually considerably less. Fortunately for those now surviving, there is scarcely a predatory animal left in the state to prey upon deer or elk, and it is doubtful if even a mountain lion would attack a full-grown animal. Coyotes may attack calves, but their damage is inconsiderable.

The elk is a member of the deer family, but he is much larger. Besides, he is differentiated by a heavily-maned neck, as well as by antlers that branch forward with a single beam rather than forking equally. But his methods of combat are the same as those of the deer—a bull elk will do battle with another his age and size, and the struggle may go on for a few minutes or may last for hours. The combatants may part peaceably, or fight until one is killed. And, in case the antlers have become interlocked, one or both animals may die of thirst and starvation.

Before the coming of the white man, deer and elk abounded on the prairies and watersheds of the Mississippi River, for there were lakes surrounded by a heavy growth of reeds and bulrushes, in addition to extensive swales of grass with excellent cover.

But oddly enough, the elk proved
(Turn to page 59)

Remnants of great elk herds that once roamed the San Joaquin and other valleys now are protected by the law



Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Evans and Diane



Ranger Evans also has vegetable garden on mountain

Diane poses in her garden located atop Bald Mountain



Fire lookout tower



A Babe in the Woods

By DANTE TRANQUILLE

DIANE, baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Evans, is a real outdoor child. For seven months of each year she lives with her parents on Bald Mountain in the Fulton Chain of the Adirondacks. Mr. Evans, a forest fire ranger, often carries Diane in a basket strapped to his back when making his trips up and down the mountain. When Diane isn't accompanying her father she's playing in her own private flower garden. The Evans family has plenty of visitors who keep Diane from getting lonely. Between fire seasons Mr. and Mrs. Evans and Diane make their home in Remsen, New York



The whine of the power saw soon will be filling some hidden and half forgotten canyons in western Oregon where once cracked the explorer's rifle. And behind this change is a colorful tale of frontier Americana

By JOHN CLARK HUNT

..... THE SMITH RIVER

ALITTLE more than half way down the wildly beautiful Oregon coast a small mountain river empties into the Pacific Ocean.

The small river bears the simple, unadorned name of "Smith." But behind the almost unbroken wall of Douglasfir forest which has hidden the river and sheltered its people for almost a century there is a colorful tale of frontier Americana.

The white man's chapter of the river's story begins with the Jed Smith incident.

Jedidiah Smith was one of the Mountain Men and one of the great, if not the greatest, explorers of the western United States. He blazed many dangerous and searching trails into the vast, lonely ex-

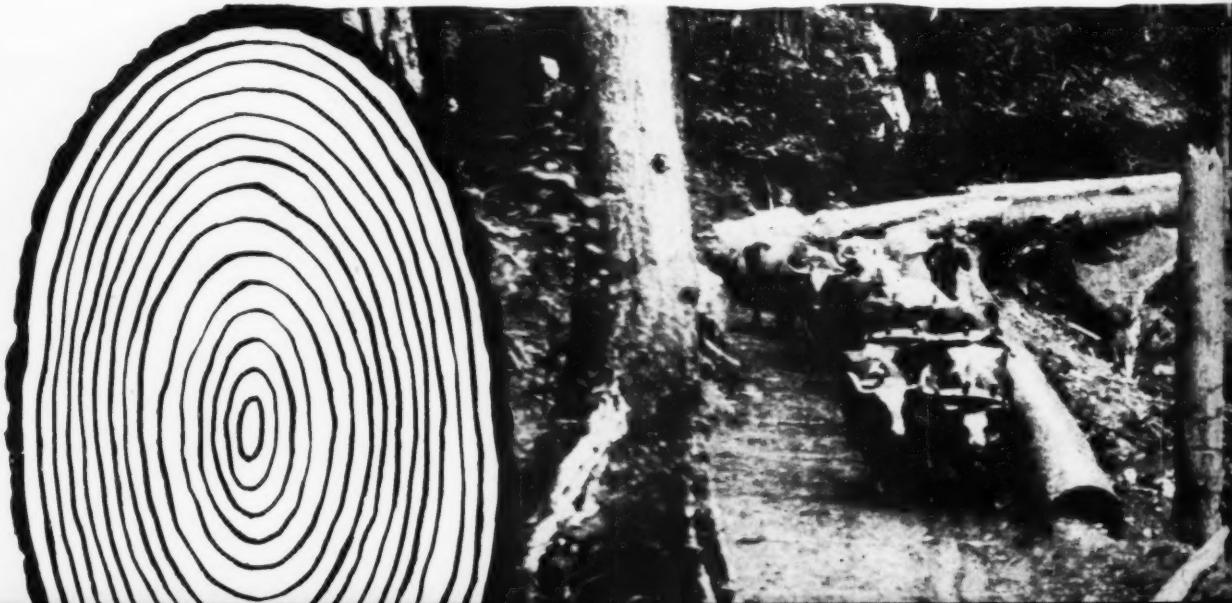
panses of the western half of our country while it was still a mystery to the map makers.

On the first recorded overland exploration of the Oregon coast, in 1828, Smith and the 17 trappers in his party camped at the mouth of a minor river. While he and two of the trappers were out of camp exploring the river, the Indians struck. They killed 14 of the men. One man escaped. Smith and his three fortunate companions buried the dead, then made their way north and west to Fort Vancouver on the north bank of the Columbia River. The Hudson's Bay Company Factor at Fort Vancouver sent an expedition after the Indians and recovered some of Smith's horses, furs and equipment.

That is how the Smith River got its name.

About 20 years later, during the general settling of the Oregon Territory, a small number of people pushed into the Smith River area. But it was not until a sawmill was built at Gardiner, near the spot where Jedidiah and his men had camped, that a prosperous settlement was established.

About 1870 screw jack and bull-tam logging began reaching slowly up the Smith River toward the head of tidewater. On the limited ground favorable to these laborious, back-breaking logging methods, logs from selected trees were rolled and skidded to the river. On rough ground trees were seldom cut for a distance





R S A G A

of more than one hundred yards from the water's edge. On level or gently sloping ground logs were sometimes skidded for two miles. Only logs free of knots and imperfections were acceptable. This usually meant taking the second cut from the tree and leaving the rest where it fell. Loggers were paid \$4 and \$5 per thousand board feet for their "sticks" delivered to the sawmill. Today this timber would be mostly plywood peeler stock bringing \$80 a thousand or more. Standard wage for the lumberjack, who worked by the day, was one dollar. The day was measured from dawn to dusk.

The present interest in the Smith River is due to a major bark beetle epidemic in the timber on its head-

waters. The U. S. Bureau of Land Management is building 90 miles of access road to reach at least three billion board feet of merchantable timber. The road must be completed and approximately three quarters of a billion board feet of dead and dying trees salvaged as rapidly as possible.

Gathering material for this brief history of the Smith River and some of its flavor during the last 75 years was both easy and enjoyable. It was merely necessary to ask the men who know firsthand, for a few of those who helped to shape the events still live in the area.

One of these hardy oldtimers who knew the Smith River and its bullteam logging when loggers were tim-

ber beasts with a bark on, is Asa Henderson. He is an alert 87 years old and still lives with his son about a half mile from the mouth of the Smith at Reedsport.

Asa and his family landed in Gardiner in 1874 when he was six years old. At that time it had been a settlement for some 20 years. The Hendersons came from Illinois across country by train to San Francisco while the transcontinental train was still new enough to be a source of wonderment. From San Francisco they sailed up the coast to Gardiner on the old *Adjax*.

"My father started logging on the Smith River in 1875," Asa said. "I began my work in the woods when I was ten years old and became a regular bullteam driver when I was 12. We felled timber all summer and skidded the logs to the edge of the river. Then in winter when the river was high we rolled the logs into the water, broke log jams and ran them down to the mill. Every job was a hard job. For many years all cutting was done by chopping. If we were operating within a half mile of the river we could skid about 30 logs a day. They would average about 1100 board feet each. But remember, we had to chop the tree down and cut the log we used from it before we had a log to skid, then we had to deliver it to the mill."

One important factor was very much in the loggers favor. They lived pretty much off the country by taking fish, game, and furs. The local stores bought martin, mink, beaver and coon pelts. At times the stores were almost filled with the

About 1870 screw jack and bull team logging began reaching up the Smith River



hides. The Gardiner Mill Company staked its contract loggers to whatever supplies they had to buy and the loggers paid for them when the logs were delivered. Each logger branded his logs with his recorded brand.

"The worst part," Asa explained, "was trying to deliver our logs during the winter floods. The old river would sometimes go wild. I remember one fall, after we had had a particularly good logging season, I told my father that our stake was made if we could herd the logs to the mill, but if we couldn't deliver them we had nothing. Well, sir, the high water sure came; the river went on a rampage and carried all our logs and our year's work out to sea. We had nothing. But man, when we did get a big volume of logs to the mill, I'm telling you we painted the town."

During the early logging days the Indians along the Smith River had become peaceful and even helpful to the white men. But they used to watch the timber being felled and shake their heads—"by and by she all be gone"—they would say.

When Asa was a boy there was only one doctor in the Smith and Umpqua River coast country. To care for critical illnesses and accidents he was rushed by river skiff and horseback from one case to another. There was one road but it didn't reach the coast by many miles. In fact, it began at Scottsburg on the Umpqua River and ran east to

Drain. From the coast to Scottsburg there was only the Umpqua River. On the Smith River there was no road of any kind, even the trails were poor and not used much.

In commenting on early day forest fires Asa Henderson said, "I don't recall any serious fires, but when I was a youngster people were still talking about the big fire which started up the coast at Yaquina Bay and ran all the way south to the Rogue River. It burned in 1866, I believe. It had been a terrible fire. The burn was probably larger than some of our eastern states."

And when asked why he had not taken a large block of free timberland as others had done, the old logger grinned and said, "I did, just a little. I staked one Timber and Stone claim of 160 acres. But I sold it many years ago for \$3200. If I had kept it, I would have a fortune in timber today."

Noah Black, who is 77 years old, was another of the early day Smith River loggers. He is now a successful dairy farmer on land that he hacked out of the Smith River forest. As he talked about the years when he felled timber for a living he wore the happy smile of a boy, but he enjoyed telling about life along the river even more than talking about logging.

"The Smith River was a good place to live, and still is," he said. "But it was real fun when we were isolated from the rest of the world. There was no road in here until 1931

when the county road was built. We didn't have much money. It didn't matter. We didn't need much. We lived good and we liked each other. It was a choice place for a boy to grow up. The hunting and fishing was of the finest and we almost lived on the river.

"Until the county road was built there were not many families along the Smith, but they were large families. I'll never forget the dances we used to have. Each household took its turn giving the dances. Almost every house had one large room with a smooth floor and each family had from one to several girls. We thought nothing of working all day, rowing eight or ten miles, dancing all night, then rowing back home at daylight and going to work. We enjoyed life."

There were several one-room grammar schools up and down the river to which the kids rowed by skiff. Because of the difficulty and expense of sending its youngsters "outside" to high school, the Smith River people finally decided that they must have their own high school. The one way to get it was to build it themselves. So, the people up and down the river got together, selected a site and built the school. Then they imported teachers. They also had to have transportation for the students to and from school. This problem was solved by using a couple of river boats.

This is the way the timber "beasts" looked during the bull team days



"We liked our isolated way of life so well," Noah Black said, "that we felt we should hold a fair each year to celebrate. Again we all worked together and organized our own kind of fair. Some years we had more than \$1000 in prize money. Agricultural products were brought from the Smith River farms by boat and livestock was often hauled to the fair ground on small, homemade barges. One year we invited the governor to our fair, and he came. We played a trick on him. We told him we wanted to get his picture—a special picture. He was asked to sit on a chair on a platform. The cameraman got in front of him with a big black cloth over his head. He fumbled around for awhile, under the cloth, the way cameramen used to do. Then he asked the governor to smile real pretty. As the governor sat there holding his smile, music began coming from under the black cloth and the cameraman stepped out playing an accordian. The gov-

reared and has lived all his life on the Smith River. His father, Jack Dailey, was a bull puncher during the bullock team logging days.

Dailey remembers vividly the holidays when boat races were held on the lower river in tidewater. The few hundred people who lived within a radius of several miles came to watch and bet on their favorites. There was keen competition and often great excitement. Numerous boat designs were used in developing speed to win races.

About the turn of the century small steamboats began plying the river, upstream as far as Dailey's old home, carrying passengers, supplies and the mail. Gasoline power replaced the chugging little steamers in 1912.

Dailey recalls when the Gardiner Mill Company, in 1908, told his father to fatten and butcher the last of their logging oxen. The bullock team logging days on the Smith River were finished.

schooners and Captain Gus Westerdale, now approaching his 90th birthday. He still lives at Gardiner, the port from which he sailed for 27 years, hauling lumber for the Gardiner Mill Company.

Captain Gus braved the terrible Pacific storms every winter but he never lost a stick of lumber. His voyages from Gardiner to San Pedro, California required from six to 32 days, depending on the wind.

He had one ship sink under him 15 miles north of San Francisco, with the loss of two sailors. On another voyage he had a collision with a barkentine about 500 miles off the California coast. He held an unlimited license for both sail and steam for any ocean. "But I always liked the windjammers best," he said.

He told of many ships he had sailed. His reminiscing, however, always returned to the *Caroline*, and when he spoke of her it was as if he were remembering an old sweet-



Six yoke of logging oxen stoically wait command to resume the long haul

ernor laughed until he almost fell off the platform."

In 1931 the county road was built and the Smith River people were on wheels like the rest of the country. It helped the farms. They could truck their produce out easier and faster than they had boated it down the river. Sometimes it had been a problem getting their livestock to market. They often had had to drive their hogs to the head of the river and over the mountain to Drain to the railroad. But the road also opened the area to the rest of the world. Smith River has never been the same.

Douglas Dailey, a husky, friendly man, with a reputation as an expert steelhead sports fisherman, was born,

Douglas Dailey is philosophical about his old home ceasing to be detached from the rest of the world and a modern access logging road replacing the winding, narrow little county road.

"Well, the county road sure brought changes and this new road will bring even more. It was very satisfying here in the old days. We never had to lock a door and you could stand your rifle beside the trail and leave it for days if you wanted to, for when you went back it would still be there. But we can't prevent changes. It would be foolish to try."

No account of early day lumbering at Gardiner would be complete without some reference to the sailing

heart. "I was master of the schooner *Caroline* for eight years," he said.

He told of hurrying back from San Francisco where they had delivered a shipload of lumber one December. The crew wanted to be in Gardiner for New Year's Eve. "We made it all right as far as the bar to the port where we could see Gardiner, but we got stuck on the bar and had to sit there all night like a cow in a mudhole."

When asked what Gardiner was like in the early lumbering days he replied, "She was a good town. There was no way in except by sea and the Smith and Umpqua Rivers but we had everything we needed. In addition to the sawmill and resi-

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Famous Forests

B A L S A

The Hollywood villain really isn't hurt when he gets conked with that chair. It's made of wood only half as heavy as cork

THE sheriff pushes his way into the Last Chance Saloon and walks over to a mean-looking varmint standing at the bar.

"Seems to me I told you cattle-rustlers to stay out of town," says our hero, easy-like.

Reaching behind him, the varmint grabs hold of a good-sized table which he swings through the air and shatters into a dozen pieces on the sheriff's head.

Unfazed, our hero reaches for a heavy-looking chair which he reduces to kindling on the varmint's head. Soon the air is filled with flying furniture, and when the fight reaches

the balcony, the balustrade is also reduced to splinters. Later, the sheriff's girl, locked in the burning ranch house, is rescued only after the door has been splintered by the sheriff's brawny shoulder.

Not to be rude about it, the actors in westerns and other adventure films would have to have pretty thick skulls to survive these little mixups, but for the fact that the special "breakaway" furniture and props they use were built in the studio carpenter shop—out of balsa wood. This is the same feather-light, satin-white wood used in building model planes. Balsa weighs half as much

as cork, but has much greater structural strength. In the movies balsa "bricks" are often used when a wall must collapse on the actors, and the mallets with which clowns conk each other in the circus also usually are made of balsa. Paramount alone uses 5000 feet of this material a year. Because no retakes are possible on TV, balsa is only occasionally used in these studios. You can never be sure exactly how wood will break.

While balsa (*Ochroma lagopus*) is found in many Central and South American countries, most of that exported comes from Ecuador, where it is harvested on a regular commercial basis. Sometimes called the "weed tree," balsa can be cut selectively from the same area, year after year. It grows about 12 feet in its first six months, and in ten years it is about 90 feet tall and 15 inches in diameter.

At one time attempts were made to cultivate balsa, but they were abandoned as not worth the trouble, as the tree scatters its own seed so plentifully. For another thing, it does not grow well in a pure stand. Balsa has large ivory-colored, vase-shaped flowers which grow on the tips of the branches. In time these flowers produce a bole-shaped fruit which bursts, releasing great quantities of seeds, each attached to a silky filament. These resemble the "cotton" from our cottonwood tree. At first these seeds come up almost like grass—only a few inches from each other. However, balsa is a delicate and perishable plant. Excessive rain, high winds, and the cuts made by jaguars sharpening their claws (just like kitty on the living room couch), either kill off or make many trees commercially worthless. Competing undergrowth is also a factor, and periodically the balsa areas are burned off, after which the trees grow much better. A dozen good, big trees to the acre is an average yield.

When Francisco Pizarro, the Spanish conqueror of Peru, sailed down



WOOD

the coast of South America almost 500 years ago, he reported seeing enormous native rafts in the Gulf of Guayaquil navigating much like ships, although they appeared awkward and unseaworthy by European standards. Later he discovered that these rafts were made of balsa, and it was because of the experiences of these early South Americans that Thor Heyerdahl used this same wood (also from the forests of Ecuador) when he built his famous raft the *Kon-Tiki* on which he crossed the Pacific.

In his book Heyerdahl tells of his trip into the jungle to find 12 giant balsa logs, each three feet in diameter. That part of Ecuador has about 100 inches of rain a year and abounds in scorpions, giant cockroaches, gigantic stinging ants, giant iguana (lizards) "as long as crocodiles," and poisonous snakes. He tried to cut down a balsa tree himself but found that his ax bounced right off. The native woodsmen use machetes, or straight-handled axes copied after those used by Pizarro's men when they landed. The trees are "beavered," or chopped clear round until they fall—instead of being cut to fall in a particular direction.

The bark is removed very easily. Sometimes after a strip of cross hatch marks have been made the length of a log, it can be *pushed out* of its bark. To make it easier to drag through the jungle muck, each log is pointed at one end. When it is green, balsa is quite heavy, being 70-80 percent water, and weighing about 25 lbs. to the cubic foot (as opposed to about 6-10 lbs. when it is dried), so that it takes two oxen to pull it to a road where it is loaded on a truck to be taken to a river. A small boy walks some distance ahead of the oxen, while the driver, at the rear, cracks a 20-foot whip, curses continually, and yells "*Bisca la guia*" (follow the leader), meaning the little boy.

At the river the raftsmen do as

they have done from time immemorial—since long before anybody thought of using balsa for anything but rafts. They tie a number of logs together with vines so as to make a raft about 17 feet square. On the rafts the men build thatch lean-tos and move in their wives, children, dogs, chickens, etc. Fire for cooking is made in a box of sand. Then the rafts are loaded with bunches of bananas, cocoa beans and other local produce, to sell when they reach Guayaquil. Depending on the season, and the amount of water in the river, the trip takes from two to six weeks. Usually many rafts are fastened together in a chain, the men taking turns at steering so that they won't pile up on a mud bank. After selling their produce and turning their logs in at a sawmill, the raftsmen and their families go back up river in one of the little launches that run regularly, stopping at every town. During the trip home, they sit on the roof of the cabin and shoot dice.

Since balsa is so perishable, every effort is made to move it from the forest to the sawmill as rapidly as possible. During their stay in the river, the logs have picked up additional water, and now weigh about 45 lbs. to the cubic foot. Also, they are frequently covered with wood-boring worms, so that they appear to have whiskers. As the saw cuts up a balsa log, water spouts out as though it were a sponge—but after being carefully kiln-dried, the wood's weight is down to from six to ten pounds a cubic foot. Because balsa wood has so many defects, it is usually cut into fairly small pieces to make sure only perfect sections are shipped to market. About 25 percent of a balsa log is waste.

Some have compared balsa to a collection of tubes—which, even after they are filled with air instead of water, give it a surprising structural strength, as well as buoyancy.

While balsa will reabsorb water to some extent after it has been kiln-

dried, this process tends to obstruct the microscopic openings in the wood, so that it will never again take in as much water as it once had—and either painting or waterproofing will keep balsa from absorbing any appreciable degree of moisture at all.

Balsa was unknown in the U.S. as a commercial wood until after the first World War, although it was used during the war to support floating mines.

For hundreds of years the natives living in the interior of Ecuador had looked upon balsa simply as a material to use in building rafts, and in fact, the Spanish word for raft is *balsa*. When they had sold their produce down at the coast, they allowed their rafts to drift out to sea and break up—and that was the end of them.

Then, about 1911 somebody got the idea balsa might be useful for other things, and started sawing out a few boards by hand. For a long time the only commercial use for balsa was for floats and life preservers, but about 1916 when our supply of cork was cut off because of the U-boats, balsa started arriving in the U.S., and giving people ideas. By 1925 a solid trade had been established, and it began to be used for hundreds of things.

The model plane industry—a booming business—has thrived on balsa, and today 75 percent of all this wood is whittled, sanded, polished and glued to look like the Air Force's latest models.

In the second World War balsa was in terrific demand and had a high priority and, due to the U.S.-sponsored program, imports reached an all-time high of 36,000,000 feet in 1943. Thousands of balsa floats were used, and nearly every ship crossing the Atlantic carried several enormous life rafts made of balsa, which is virtually unsinkable. A few machine gun bullets could puncture the buoyancy compartments of

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the gentle touch

By RAY HOGAN

If you think lake fishing's tame stuff, you ought to wet your line in New Mexico's Eagle Nest Lake

A GOOD, stiff breeze was giving Eagle Nest Lake all it had in the way of push. The few boats that were still out were rocking like chips in the heavy turbulence and our little 16 footer was having the devil's own time keeping her stern in the water and every now and then the propeller would come free and the outboard would rev up to a high whine.

So far as I was concerned, I was ready to call it a day. I'm a river man, mostly, with the deep canyoned Upper Rio Grande heading the list. But this late day in the summer I was the victim of persuasion by my good friend Soapy who had long taunted me about the six pound trout that were to be taken from his favorite water, Eagle Nest Lake.

It is 9000-foot country and things can get pretty rough in one of those periodical mountain storms that sweep the Sangre de Cristo range. It isn't New Mexico's largest lake by far, being no more than 1800 acres or so, but it is a high one and I hadn't forgotten some of the tales I had listened to relative to what happens when a wild storm strikes.

But Soapy either had never heard any of them or wasn't interested. Instead of heading back for the landing, he was prowling along off-shore toward the southwest cove, mistily indefinite through the spray.

"It'll be a little quieter over there," he yelled up to me.

I just nodded and hoped the lake wasn't too deep along where we were traveling. My hands were blue-cold and I buttoned my light jacket up to the top. The wind was knife sharp and I dug around in my pockets until I found an extra handkerchief and bound it around my ears to keep them from dropping off, but it wasn't much help. I looked back at Soapy. He grinned cheerfully and ducked his head at the cove.

"Won't be so bad once we get in there."

It did seem warmer after we finally pulled into the narrow, somewhat more placid finger of water. It lay between two low hills in a shallow sort of canyon that afforded a little protection and when we had reached a point about halfway, my friend throttled the outboard and reached for his rod.

"They'll be in here today," he said. "Wind always seems to drive them into the coves."

I got my rod into action and let the string of brass and copper spinners and red beads drop overboard and run out behind the boat. Soapy was doing the same and we idled on down the inlet at slow speed. At about the 50-yard point on my line, I felt a solid strike and yelled back to Soapy.

At the first bite of the hook the rainbow came out of the water in an explosion of spray. I fought to regain line only to have it ripped off as he came down and started for the main body of the lake. When I heeled gently, he came around in a wide circle and bore for the boat.

"Watch that line!" Soapy yelled.

I was. I cranked my reel as fast as I could and kept pace until he broke water again a half dozen yards astern. For a long moment he hung in the air, giving us a thorough once-over from his wide eyes and then back down again. He came straight on, right for the boat. I tensed on my knees and tried to turn him, but he was determined and under the boat he went, with me making a wide arc with my short rod to keep the line from fouling. Before I could straighten myself up he left the water and high above the lake's dancing surface he shook at the string of spinners and did his best to throw it free.

I was certain he was going to do it and my heart lay in my throat. But the barb was deeply embedded and when he came down with a loud splash he was still hooked. He went straight for the bottom but pressure brought him back, all the fight gone out of him. I brought him alongside and Soapy brought him in with the net, a nice four pound rainbow.

"Really a scrapper," I said, admiringly.

"Should be," Soapy grunted, getting the boat underway again, "being the great-grandson of a Chinook salmon."

I remembered then, the mystery of the Eagle Nest salmon.

It seems, and records bear out the fantastic tale, that in the beginning there were but few fish in the lake, only a few black spotted New Mexico native trout that came in by way of Cienega Creek which empties in at the head. A good sportsman named Ed Springer decided something should be done about that condition and imported some 200,000 steelhead trout which he turned loose in the cold, clear water.

Not long after that the state Game & Fish Department added a goodly amount of Chinook salmon. Not much happened that first year but the following season a number of the Chinooks were caught by fishermen, none of them running large but averaging around 15 inches in length. They stopped striking as suddenly as they had started. Then late the third year people were startled by reports of a salmon run!

Salmon running in a lake—and up tiny Cienega Creek! Only the male salmon were making the run. The Department officials took notice and sent up investigators and they at once verified it, tagging 25 of the Chinooks for future observation purposes. The next season saw the procedure repeated and some of the tagged salmon were netted and when that run was over, that was it. It never happened again. Nobody ever caught another salmon, nor saw one, or heard of one. They simply disappeared and there is no record of anyone ever finding one dead. The steelheads, of course, simply reverted to type and became, once again, rainbows.

But the story remains alive and faithful followers of Eagle Nest Lake, such as my friend Soapy, always come up with that reference, "great-grandson of a Chinook" whenever a particularly good trout is taken from the lake. And perhaps there is a lot more truth to it than might be suspected. I have learned that the fish do actually run larger and heavier and seemingly battle more determinedly than the rainbows do in other lakes about the state. Maybe it is just imagination, perhaps it isn't, but I have a lot of respect for Eagle Nest trout now.

Soapy took a nice one not long after I had brought in my number one boy. He ran about the same size but did most of his fighting underwater. Soapy was using a short spinning gang with a chunk of cut bait on the end hook which he swears will always bring a strike from the larger fish, but I stuck with my string of bangles and just after we made the turn to sweep the inlet for the second time, I got my second strike.

I thought at first he was going to play it deep, too, but he was just a little slow in coming out. He broke the lake near the boat, sending spray in all directions and when he struck he was moving away at top speed. My reel sang out its protest, but I let him have his way for there would be no stopping him unless I wanted

just the memory and a broken line. Soapy kept the boat following at slow pace to guard my reserve line and when the trout reversed, he put on the brakes and kicked us backwards a few yards to keep me a little ahead.

"Gently now," he cautioned. "He's coming out of the water, straight for you."

And that is exactly what he did. I was keeping the line tight, watching it as it sliced its way toward us in a zig-zag course. Suddenly he was out of the water in a long, writhing arc, sailing right into the boat, it seemed. I had a long look at his twisting, sparkling body as it showered drops in a twinkling halo around him. The next brief second he was gone, under the boat and I had a slack, empty line to reel in.

"One of the smart ones," Soapy said philosophically, starting up the outboard. "Every now and then you tie into one."

A slender native was my next catch, beautiful to look at but not so full bodied and thick as the rainbows we had netted. The wind had died somewhat and I had forgotten about being cold. We cruised slow-

ly along under the heavy overcast and the threatened storm seemed to be blowing on toward 12,000-odd foot Baldy Peak a few miles to the north. A few boats were still visible along the shore of the lake but we had no company in the inlet. We made the distance again and swung about. Soapy glanced at the low angle of my rod.

"Try near the top this time," he suggested.

I raised the degree of pitch and wondered if I also should change lures. Eagle Nest trout, I knew, liked minnows, occasionally struck bucktail spinners and flies and on a bright summer day were known to savagely handle small, regular trout flies. But this wasn't such a day. This dark, stormy hour should be better served by cut bait and spinner, as Soapy was employing, or a string of bangles and beads like I trailed in the choppy water.

The cut bait scored. I heard Soapy let out a noisy grunt and saw him cut the motor. He squirmed around until he was facing the rear and over his shoulder I saw the big trout come out and shake himself. Soapy gave

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Express highways and underground garages have desecrated some of our most beautiful city parks and pose a constant threat to many others. It's time the citizens of the land took a stand. Is it going to be . . .

By HARLEAN JAMES

P a r k s o r

A FEW years ago a fighting editor by the name of Tom Wallace gave Louisville engineers the shock of their lives when he thundered editorially against the building of an expressway traversing Louisville's Cherokee Park. Tom Wallace, now editor emeritus of the *Louisville Times*, was conditioned to make this fight. In the 20s and 30s he had fought successfully to preserve picturesque Cumberland Falls from obliteration by proposed dams. He has served as President of the Izaak Walton League and is now Chairman of the Board of the National Conference on State Parks, Vice President of the American Planning and Civic Association and Honorary Member of the Society of American Foresters. He definitely won that fight in Louisville, but he

tells me that it may have to be made over again if a proposed East-West Expressway route should be located in the park. Eternal vigilance is the price of protection for our city parks.

Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., writing in 1928 about the work of his illustrious father under the title "Forty Years of Landscape Architecture," paid tribute to the European precedents which set a pattern for parks, public squares and commons in the American colonial period. The elder Olmsted, in an address on "The Justifying Value of a Public Park" made in 1870, considered that he was entitled to restrict the meaning to a large tract of land set apart by the public for the enjoyment of rural landscape." And Henry V. Hubbard in 1914 and again in 1923 at a national conference on city

planning included in a well balanced city park system the regional reservation, the large country park, the smaller intown park, playfields, playgrounds and special opportunities for swimming, skating, bathing and wading in lake, river or ocean. Mr. E. M. Bassett at a meeting in 1923 further elaborated on the legal status of parks. Said he: "A park is properly shown as part of the official city map. The people own it in a sovereign capacity. No buildings can be constructed on it unless they are for park purposes."

Our city and metropolitan park heritage from the past is important. With our constantly increasing urban population, who can doubt that in the future the parks set aside through the vision of our pioneers will become more and more

Rock Creek Park, Washington, D. C., now threatened by express highway



r Pavements?

useful and valuable to our people? And yet if we examine the assaults that are being made today to confiscate park values and actually take over park property for quite unrelated purposes we can see that there is need for a militantly defensive program to protect our parks from the urgent demands of those who would appropriate them as free sites for unrelated buildings and those who would sacrifice park elements in the city plan to traffic and storage of automobiles.

Central Park—Central park in New York is an ever recurrent example. It is said that if all the buildings seriously proposed for Central Park could have been built, the park would have been covered by several layers. Fortunately, as the Centennial of Central Park was cele-

brated in 1953, it was shown that the park authorities have resisted all such demands. The only substantial building in the park is that of the Metropolitan Museum which most planners admit today should have been located across the street facing the park. We owe the design of this famous park to Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. and Calvert Vaux, and with every passing year which confirms the precedent, we expect New York to continue to protect Central Park, though it must be recognized that its growing intensive use requires better maintenance than is accorded the park today.

Boston Common—There is a pending serious threat against Boston Common which was set aside in 1634. In 1640 it is said the city acted to protect the Common from

diminution. However, it is recorded that the Public Garden in Boston, originally a marshy part of the common lands, and illegally sold, was not repurchased until 1823. But in the supposedly enlightened year of 1946, the legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts passed two acts; one enabling the city of Boston to provide off-street parking spaces or garages, and the other to enable private enterprise to exploit the Boston Common by building a huge underground garage in it. Later the Legislature passed an act exempting the builders of the proposed garage from taxation and in 1951 to make their bonds purchasable by insurance companies. The R. F. C. did not respond to requests for money, but the bill to repeal the garage act was defeated in the Legislature this

Louisville Kentucky's Cherokee Park, where preservation fight was won
Courier-Journal and Louisville Times photo



year. And the threat of the garage hangs like a cloud over the Boston Common, for the destruction of trees and shrubs would be practically complete if construction were undertaken. Myron E. Pierce, Secretary of the Boston Common Society, is carrying on an intensive fight against these proposals to confiscate the people's property dedicated to park uses for unrelated and questionable purposes. He declares:

The financing of the contract and lease has been hawked around now without success for nearly eight years. This project was not recommended by any of the many investigating commissions. Its real purpose was not to abate the traffic nuisance, as the city experts at the time of its passage believed that it would make congestion worse. It originated with the desire of two real estate speculators to take exclusive possession of land dedicated to park purposes, assessed at a million dollars an acre, in order to avoid land cost. (They could cash in quite a bit selling the dirt excavated from ten acres of Boston Common).

Mr. Pierce quotes expert opinion. Otis D. Fellows, Chief Engineer of the State Planning Board, declared that the garage was not a proper use of the Boston Common, that it was not a good or convenient location for a parking facility, that an accumulation of vehicles would create a bad situation at peak hours of traffic and that it would constitute a terrible eyesore for many months. Attention is called to the fact that the city of Boston accepted five million dollars bequeathed to it by George F. Parkman, who expressed "the hope and expectation that the Boston Common shall never in whole or in part be diverted from its present use as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of its citizens." The Boston City Planning Board, when William Stanley Parker was chairman, protested that the garage would be over 1000 feet distant from the business district and that it would cause terrible congestion at peak hours on Charles Street.

Eloquently, also, Tom Wallace, speaking in Boston in 1948 before the American Institute of Park Executives, declared:

Bostonians should think long and carefully before doing anything radical to Boston Common. I know Boston Common only as the country boy who has never been away from home knows Washington Monument and the Statue of Liberty, but I think that it would be a mistake to

make of it the roof of a garage. That's about like putting a roof garden on St. John's Church where Patrick Henry made his Liberty-or-Death speech. The Common here is an historic possession that morally belongs as much to the United States as to Boston or Massachusetts.

California Mistakes—Boston Common will yet be saved and the city of Boston protected from a bad error in planning. But the damage has been done in two California cities. Union Square in the midst of the hotel and shopping district of San Francisco was utterly destroyed by the construction of a four-story underground garage. The reduction of the park by a surrounding roadway, by increased pavements for walking and the introduction of tub-

to the San Francisco setting; but no one can deny that a great area of the park was destroyed during the process of building and when I saw it, it was roped off from public use. The future will show the degree of traffic congestion. The fact remains here, as elsewhere, that the cost of underground construction exceeds that of above-ground building and for the difference a suitable site could be purchased without confiscation of areas dedicated for park purposes.

Other Threats—There are other proposals. One may read about them in many cities. An underground garage has been projected for Travis Park in San Antonio. Mrs. John Bennett, President of the San Antonio Construction Society, informs me that a suit has been brought to prevent construction of the garage and that the project is at a standstill pending court proceedings.

In Washington, D. C. serious proposals have been made to build underground garages under Franklin Square and even under Lafayette Square opposite the White House. The Ellipse back of the White House and the Mall may be taken over some day for parking above and underground. It may be, however, that the high water table in this near-sea-level city which brings flash floods after every heavy rain to the many underpasses now in existence will prevent the destruction of these memorable parks and parkways, for waterproof construction, while not impossible, is expensive. Those who favor these uses sweep aside the consideration that complete destruction of hundred-year-old trees would be necessary to make way for construction, and they fail to appreciate that the kind of planting which could be introduced on the roofs of garages would be far different from the stately trees whose roots are now fed by adequate soil depth.

But underground garages are not the only threats to the noble parks of the Federal City. In the metropolitan area of Washington there are proposals to encroach upon the land bought under the Capper-Cramton Act of 1930 to provide parks and parkways in nearby Maryland, with a further threat that the main western highway approach may thus be brought near to the District line headed straight for our famous Rock Creek Park, which the highway people see no harm in using for a major six-lane expressway to bring through

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Courier-Journal and Louisville Times photo

Editor Tom Wallace, who spearheaded intense battle to protect Cherokee Park

bed palms and shrubs makes the roof garden no substitute for the Square as oldtimers know it. But the introduction of some 2000 cars for ingress and egress into already congested streets, carrying streetcars, mixed vehicular traffic and many pedestrians has created rather than solved a problem. We are told that the cost of underground construction is so much more than that above-ground that the purchase of suitable sites for several smaller garages could be more than financed, even when no charge is made for use of the park land. Apparently the despilers have no concern for park values.

Los Angeles has now built a garage under Pershing Square. The design for entrances and the rim of planting which has been preserved around the edge of the square are superior

What About The Hope-Aiken Grazing Bills?

ON May 20 at the Cosmos Club in Washington an influential member of The American Forestry Association informed the editor of AMERICAN FORESTS that in his judgment S. 2548 and H.R. 6787, the grazing bills introduced by Senator Aiken and Representative Hope, would represent, if enacted, the opening wedge onto the national forests by special interests. Enactment of these bills, he said, would represent the first "foot in the door" by those interests.

Since the Board of Directors of the AFA has taken no official action on these bills up to this time, the member was not reflecting the official stand of AFA, but was speaking for himself. At the same time, he was voicing the deep-seated skepticism the AFA has had in years past for any proposed legislation pertaining to stockmen. Also, he was thinking of the battle of a year ago that was led by the AFA in helping to check the Barrett-D'Ewart grazing bills. That these bills contained vested rights features inimical to the best interests of the national forests was obvious to all conservationists and a number of key figures in the administration alike. This legislation was quite properly checkmated.

In the present instance, AMERICAN FORESTS feels it would be derelict in its duty if it failed to point out that the proposed legislation introduced by Mr. Hope and Mr. Aiken, two highly-regarded conservation legislators, is a horse of a different color compared to much previous legislation affecting stockmen. As Lowell Besley, executive director-forester, reported to the directors in April, "Although this bill (S. 2548) does help to protect the permittee for investments he makes to improve the range, it does not in any way establish 'rights' to the land. Grazing is still a privilege and the Secretary of Agriculture is not in any way limited in his administration of the privileges nor in acting completely within the public interest with respect to conservation on the range. . . For these reasons it seems to me that S. 2548 is in line with our Higgins Lake proposed program."

Nor can these bills be dismissed as "stockmen inspired" in this particular instance. They were authorized by a small group of conservation-minded legislators. Dissatisfied with previous bills on grazing, they resolved to write one that would cover all users of the forests and which would spell out and give Congressional sanction to the whole multiple use setup. To perfect this legislation, Senator Aiken's Senate Agricultural Committee held a series of hearings in the West. Over 80 witnesses testified. As amended, there is some doubt as to whether his bill can properly be labeled a grazing bill at all since it has become so all-inclusive.

Did Senator Aiken and his fellow workers succeed or not? The presentation on the following pages attempts to explore this question. Some see the bills as a statesman-like attempt to solidify and strengthen the multiple use concept. Others see them as the first step toward a dangerous form of legalism. One thing is certain. Both Senator Aiken and Representative Hope have made an honest effort on this thing. Consequently, there is a very real danger in automatically lumping all the proposals touching on stockmen's privileges in the same unfavorable category. Nor should we read things into the bills that are not there.

These bills deserve to be studied. We hope our readers will do this and will weigh all the facts carefully in arriving at their conclusions.—THE EDITOR.



The Pattern of Grazing Legislation

STEADY improvement of national forests range lands as a part of the multiple-purpose policy on the forests has long been one of the primary objectives of The American Forestry Association. Accordingly, it follows that any and all legislative measures introduced that pertain to the grazing lands should be studied in terms of "Will this legislation, if enacted, help or hinder in carrying on rangeland improvement and allied multiple-purpose functions in the best interests of the public?"

Based on historical evidence from other countries and on the basis of our own somewhat more limited experience, best results are achieved when grazing is considered as a "privilege" rather than as a legal "right." And since the privileges of other users of the forest must be considered as well as the improvement of the range itself, best results are achieved when the administration of those privileges is carried out by the direct and qualified representatives of the whole American public. The qualified representative of the public on our national forests is the U. S. Forest Service and the final authority is the Secretary of Agriculture.

Acting on this premise as embodied in both the old and new Programs for American Forestry, The American Forestry Association in years past has fought with every resource at its command to down prospective legislation that would tend to substitute "rights" for "privileges" on these lands. A section on grazing in the new forestry program now in the hands of the membership for the referendum vote contains three specific recommendations. They are that: 1) Numbers of livestock be brought into balance with the sustained grazing capacity of the range; 2) Sustained-range productivity be improved by reseeding, other range improvement measures



Rep. Clifford R. Hope (R., Kan.) author of the House version of grazing bill

and better management, in full consideration of priority needs of water, timber, and other uses of certain public lands used for grazing; 3) Permits to graze livestock on public lands be considered a privilege and not a legal right.

Acting within the framework of this policy, the AFA a year ago opposed the widely-publicized Barrett-D'Ewart grazing bills on the grounds that the measures sought vested rights on public lands for one category of users at the possible expense of millions of other Americans. These bills were regarded as bad legislation by almost every conservation organization in the nation, many newspapers and by a number of key figures in the administration itself.

Now up for consideration are two new companion measures introduced

by two distinguished conservation legislators and which do not appear to follow the pattern of much previous legislation pertaining to rangelands. These bills are S. 2548 introduced by Senator Aiken, and which has now been passed by the Senate, and H.R. 6787 authored by Representative Hope. Still in committee as of this writing, there is every prospect that the Hope Bill will be reported out sometime this month.

The original House and Senate versions of these bills were endorsed by the Department of Agriculture. More recently the bills have received the support of the National Wildlife Federation and the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners. As Hugh B. Woodward, regional director of the Federation, reports elsewhere on these pages, the "merits of the amended (Senate) bill should command the support of every thoughtful citizen of the United States." Among those opposed to the bills are the Izaak Walton League, Wildlife Management Institute, and a new group in the conservation firmament—The Forest Conservation Society of America—which call the bills "unnecessary."

In addition to groups for and against the bills whose views are presented on the following pages, AMERICAN FORESTS last month called on a number of educators and other key individuals who have made a long-time study of multiple use on national forests. One of these, Dr. H. H. Chapman of Yale University, replied that "with the exception of two items, the bill (S. 2548) appears to be an improvement on existing conditions." Dr. Chapman's chief objections were: 1) elimination of section 5 which provides for study of grazing fees; 2) legal reviews.

"Legal reviews," Dr. Chapman said, "seem to be the one concession to the stockmen which would tend to consolidate their hold on things,

especially when district courts are the vehicle. The present system of appeals appears to be adequate and fair. Appeal to courts is now open in case of excessive injustice. I think this provision for legal review is unnecessary, cumbersome, and obstructive of administrative authority, and if it remains, condemns the bill."

As outlined in the proposed legislation, all users of the national forests would be given three principal avenues of appeal above the level of the Chief of the Forest Service and one, that in one instance at least, might be considered above the level of the Secretary of Agriculture. After exhausting the usual avenues of appeal through the Forest Service channels, the forest user, under the terms of the new bills, would have recourse to three successive appeal steps. These are: 1) A three-man administrative advisory board consisting of representatives chosen by the Secretary, the appellant, and one other member approved by the first two; 2) A formal hearing of a quasi judicial nature under the Secretary; 3) Appeal to a District Court, on an appellate basis, where only that evidence presented at the formal hearing could be considered and at which no new evidence could be introduced. The power of the court to modify a decision of the Secretary is also limited to a case in which the court finds "that the decision of the Secretary is arbitrary, capricious or otherwise not in accordance with law."

In an effort to clarify thinking on this and other sections of the bills, AMERICAN FORESTS last month called on Representative Hope to inquire if there was any danger that such an appeals route would tend to clog up the courts with appeals and thereby hinder adjustments necessary for range improvement work.

Representative Hope replied that first of all he would like to make one point abundantly clear, namely, that in the event any loopholes exist in this legislation that would be inimical to the best interests of the national forests, any or all individuals or groups, including The American Forestry Association, should come forward and assist in ironing them out. As to the appeals course proposed, Congressman Hope suggested that once users know that they have such rights—and this is highly probable in considering the human factor—that resort to appeals in clearing up normal differences might tend to slack off rather than

increase on the forests.

As to fears expressed in some quarters that the appeals section might provide an opening wedge on which special interest might capitalize later, Representative Hope said that the Secretary's powers are not impaired in the bill. And in the event any special groups did seek to use the bill as a foundation on which to seek special interests rights, Representative Hope reminded AMERICAN FORESTS that "we can always say no, can't we?"

Developing this theme in somewhat greater detail, the Congressman said that on one occasion he had heard a conservationist of his acquaintance make the statement that he would automatically oppose any bill that tended to help stockmen regardless of its merits. While he can readily understand why some conservation groups might feel that the record of stockmen might warrant such an approach, Representative Hope then inquired as to whether or not such an approach doesn't represent a dissipation of energies. When groups oppose a temperate approach that sincerely attempts to aid all classes of users, conceivably, aren't they weakening their position against the day when they feel called upon to make a real effort against a really unjust bill, he asked?

Asked about the original description of the bills, now deleted, that they were for the purpose of "stabilizing the livestock industry," Representative Hope replied that an effort to stabilize all elements contributing to the economy would seem to come within the purview of the Congress. However, such efforts should not be made at the expense of other groups and in this particular case should be attained within the framework of the multiple-use pattern on the forests, he said.

In indicating that the provisions of his bill are well within that framework, Representative Hope said that the Forest Service has expressed the belief that the improvements section of the bill would greatly aid in carrying on the rangeland program. Whereas the Service was formerly authorized to make payments for new fencing, salting grounds and similar improvements, the Hope-Aiken Bill would not direct by act of Congress that such payments be made.

In the Senate, a section in the bill calling for a study of national forest grazing fees was eliminated. This section is still retained in the House

version of the bill. Asked if the fees study would remain a permanent feature of his bill, Representative Hope replied that this was largely up to the committee but did suggest that perhaps the answer was a study of the entire fees system on all public lands rather than just one aspect of the case.

Payment of expenses for advisory board members was also eliminated in the Senate bill but is still retained in the House version. Here again, final action is up to the committee, the Congressman said, noting that two points of view now exist as to the advisability of paying such expenses. In some cases, the failure to make such payments could mean that committee members, other than those representing large groups or associations, might not be able to attend meetings, Representative Hope admitted. Chances are that both the fees study and the expense payments for committee members will be retained in the House Bill, he indicated.

Since these bills, in themselves, appear to avoid the rigidity that goes with legally established rights on rangelands and since the Secretary's powers are left unimpaired, Representative Hope suggested that people who are opposing the bills may be borrowing trouble in terms of what might happen in the future rather than basing their conclusions on facts as they actually exist.

The present legislation, Representative Hope said, represents an attempt to spell out the multiple-use doctrine on the forests as it relates to all categories of users. For years, conservationists have been urging Congress to take such action within the approved pattern as enunciated by such students as William N. Sparhawk, Ovid Butler and others.

The present bills, Representative Hope seems to think, are an effort to do exactly that. If he is wrong, he will welcome suggestions that will plug any loopholes that exist. As for those people who are fearful that the legislation is a wedge and might pave the way for future demands, Representative Hope pointed out that some 30 million users of the forests can always say "No" to the demands of a mere 20,000 stockmen or the representatives of any similar special group.

Meanwhile, the Congressman feels that the legislation will help, not hinder, in carrying on steady rangeland improvements and in clarifying the multiple-use system as it relates to all classes of users.

In Defense of the Aiken Grazing Bill

By HUGH B. WOODWARD

Regional Director,
National Wildlife Federation

WE attempt a sane and dispassionate evaluation of S. 2548 as passed by the United States Senate on March 8, 1954.

Such an approach must be divorced from unreasoning prejudice.

Prior legislation, sponsored and strongly supported by the national livestock organizations, has, in the minds of millions of American citizens, placed a "curse" upon any bill dubbed a "stockman's bill."

S. 2548, because of its background, suffers great distrust.

We must forget the ill-starred Barrett-D'Ewart bill.

We must disregard the circumstances preceding the introduction of the present bill and the language of the act as introduced. Whatever S. 2548 may have been at the time of its introduction, the amendments and revisions of such bill have completely changed its import and effect.

It is no longer, as termed in the title of the original version, a bill "to Stabilize the Livestock Industry," dependent upon the national forests.

As revised and passed by the Senate, it is now a broad declaration of Congressional policy for the administration of all national forest lands.

A magazine article, recently published, severely critical of the original bill, strongly urged all conservationists to oppose its enactment.

Based on this article and other publications, widespread opposition persists because of lack of knowledge and understanding of the bill as passed by the Senate.

By the Act of June 4, 1897, Congress declared the purposes of the Forest reserves to be water and timber protection. (June 4, 1897. Sec. 1 C. 2 30 Stat. 34. U.S.C.A. Title 16, Sec. 475.)

Other than these, Congress recognized no other values or uses of the

tion organizations were invited to attend such hearings and present their views.

After these hearings, the bill was completely rewritten. Throughout the text of the bill, the language pertaining to grazing as a single use was stricken out in favor of the language "occupancy and use."

Benefits of the Bill—Section 12 of the bill, as passed, provides:

"It is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress that the Secretary, in carrying out the provisions of this Act, shall give full consideration to the safeguarding of all resources and uses made of these lands, including grazing, mining, recreation, timber production, watershed conservation, and wildlife."

An entirely new section (11) was added. This section provides for appointment of Multiple Use Advisory Councils at various levels.

These Advisory Boards may be constituted of representatives representing all uses of the Forests, "including, but not limited to, grazing, mining, recreation, timber production, watershed conservation, wildlife, and the general public."

Such councils may submit recommendations on their own initiative or in response to requests by the Secretary "with respect to any question of policy affecting the multiple use of such lands."

These sections establish a basic Congressional policy for the administration of the National Forests for the benefit of the entire American citizenship. They implement the decision of the United States Supreme Court in which Justice Lamar, speaking for the Court, in 1911, stated:

"All the public lands of the nation are held in trust for the people of the whole country." (Light vs. United States. 220 U. S. 537. 55 Law. Ed. p. 574.)



Mr. Woodward: "We must disregard the circumstances preceding . . . present bill"

Forests until the Granger-Thye Act of April 24, 1950. (April 24, 1950. C. 97 64 Stat. 87 U.S.C.A. Title 16, Sec. 580k.)

This Act dealt extensively with the grazing use of national forest lands. By it the grazing use became a congressionally recognized and approved use.

Conservation organizations and the general public have, for years, urged that Congress affirmatively approve and spell out the multiple-use doctrine.

Today, when the Senate has done exactly that, too many of our citizens fail to recognize the tremendous importance of such declaration.

Senator Aiken's committee held extensive hearings upon S. 2548 in the Western States.

Weeks before the scheduled hearings, representatives of water users, wildlife associations and conserva-

Section 10 of the amended bill clearly provides that the power of the Secretary of Agriculture in the administration of the National Forests *to fully protect United States forest lands* is neither abated nor curtailed.

The bill authorizes a review of administrative decisions, *except* those made for the protection of forest ranges.

The amended bill establishes a right of ultimate appeal to a federal court *upon the record* of the pleadings, evidence produced and proceedings before the Secretary.

Before the Committee, Senator Welker of Idaho strongly contended that such court review should be upon a *trial de novo* and should extend to appeals from cuts in grazing privileges made for the protection of the range or to bring about a change in the use of the range. (Report of the Committee upon S. 2548, p. 4.)

This contention was rejected by the Committee. Such rejection and passage of the bill with the broad exception of any review of a decision for the protection of the range greatly strengthens the position of the Secretary.

The power of the court to modify a decision of the Secretary is limited to a case in which the court finds "that the decision of the Secretary . . . is arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law."

Under the common law and the Constitution of the United States, such right presently exists. The legal staff of the United States Forest Service has so advised the Chief Forester. (1953 Report of the Chief of the United States Forest Service, p. 13.)

Arguments advanced against the original bill are not germane to the amended bill as passed by the Senate.

Objections to the Amended Bill— Objections voiced to the amended bill, eliminating non-factual objections, are as follows:

First: The bill is unnecessary; the present system of administrative control, without express Congressional sanction, is preferable.

This argument, in our opinion, has no merit.

Congress has already fully recognized and protected the grazing use (Granger-Thye Act).

Administration by the Secretary of Agriculture fortified by Congress

Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners Endorses S. 2548

Whereas, S. 2548 as amended and passed by the U. S. Senate on March 8, 1954, provides for establishment of multiple use advisory councils to advise the Secretary of Agriculture with respect to any questions of policy affecting the multiple use of National Forests and lands administered by him under Title III of the Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act, and

Whereas, S. 2548 as amended and passed by the U. S. Senate on March 8, 1954, contains the following long-needed declaration of Congressional policy, to-wit: "Sec. 12. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress that the Secretary, in carrying out the provisions of this Act, shall give full consideration to the safeguarding of all resources and uses made of these lands, including grazing, mining, recreation, timber, watershed conservation, and wildlife", which provision (1) is in the interest of the public generally and all users of such lands; (2) for the first time recognizes wildlife indigenous to such lands, and recreational resources which are becoming increasingly important to the public; and (3) includes a clear-cut Congressional recognition of the multiple-use principles for which this Association has long contended, and

Whereas, the title to said bill has been changed to read as follows, to-wit: "A Bill to facilitate the administration of the National Forests and other lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture; to provide for the orderly use, improvement, and development thereof; and for other purposes", and undesirable features of the original bill have been deleted,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners that the enactment into law of S. 2548, as amended and passed by the Senate on March 8, 1954, be hereby approved; provided that as a matter of equity and in order to conform said Bill to the legislative intent of the Senate, two additional Amendments are made, viz:

1. Amend Section 2 to provide for compensation to all other use and occupancy privilege holders for loss of improvements placed upon such lands in the same manner and upon the same basis as provided for reimbursement to grazing privilege holders. The entire objective of this amendment may be simply accomplished as follows: In Section 2, lines seven and nine, after the words "grazing", place a coma and insert the words "use and occupancy", and in line sixteen, strike out the words "such range".

2. In Section 4, line six, delete the words "or range". This is necessary because it is obvious that range improvements on lands owned by the Federal Government should not, under any condition, be recognized as base property to qualify any person to obtain privileges on lands to which this Bill applies, and

Be It Further Resolved, that for the reasons above stated, and conditioned upon inclusion of the two above listed Amendments, which we recommend to the House Committee on Agriculture, the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners approve the passage of S. 2548 as Amended and passed by the Senate on March 8, 1954, and

Be It Further Resolved, that our endorsement of this Amended Bill as passed by the Senate is without prejudice. We will vigorously oppose any amendments which would weaken the Amended Bill in favor of any profit use of such public lands to the detriment of the public uses thereof.

sional recognition and mandate for multiple use strengthens protection of public rights under administrative policy.

Without such legislation, an administrative policy may be changed by the Secretary of Agriculture. A reactionary Secretary could seriously impair the "service uses" of the National Forests in favor of the "profit uses."

Such power, under S. 2548, is limited by the Congressional mandate established by Section 12 of the amended Act.

Second: The bill is an opening wedge, which would permit amendment in favor of grazing permittees.

Such argument is fallacious and untenable.

There are less than 18,000 grazing permittees upon the National Forests of the Western States. (Figures from data compiled by U. S. Forest Service in eleven Western "Public Land" States.)

Thirty-three million people are now using the National Forests for recreation. (1953 Report of the Chief of the United States Forest Service, p. 1.)

The fate of the Barrett-D'Ewart bill demonstrated the influence of thirty-three million people with the Congress of the United States as against the "profit interest" of a small number of grazing permittees.

Once passed, the bill can be maintained. Why shudder and shiver at the possibility of a remote con-

tingency and lose the tremendous benefits which the public will obtain under the amended bill?

SUPPORT FROM CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS

Two strong conservation organizations have announced support for the amended version. They are:

1) The National Wildlife Federation, after a series of conferences of representatives of Western States and careful consideration by its conservation committee, at its last convention in March, 1954, unanimously recommended endorsement. (See separate box.)

2) In May, 1954, the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners, after hours of consideration and debate in the resolutions committee, conditioned upon two minor amendments, unanimously endorsed the bill. (See separate box.)

We have received word that the amendments so recommended are acceptable to Senator Aiken, Chairman of the Senate Committee, and to Congressman Hope, Chairman of the House Committee.

Both are clarifying amendments suggested by Elliott S. Barker, formerly a Forest Service employee and for nearly 25 years Director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. He has, for many years, been a student of legislation affecting public lands.

His prestige, coupled with his care-

ful analysis of the benefits under the bill, had great weight with the Western Association.

The proposed amendments stated in the Western Association's resolution are clarifying amendments, which had not been suggested prior to the passage of the bill by the Senate.

The resolution by the Western Association, unanimously approved, should carry very great weight with all conservationists and Forest Service supporters.

The Fish and Game Directors of the Western States are the men on the firing line most intimately acquainted with the problems which develop by conflicts between the grazing use and the wildlife and recreational uses of the Forests.

Conclusion—After a complete review of all Congressional legislation affecting National Forests; after many months of careful and conscientious study of S. 2548 from the time of its introduction through the committee hearings; careful analysis of the Aiken Committee report to the Senate, and the debate and colloquy at the time the bill was passed by the Senate, as printed in the Congressional record, we have an *abiding conviction that the merits of the amended bill justify and should command the support of every thoughtful citizen of the United States interested in the protection of the public values of our National Forests.*

In Opposition to the Proposed Legislation

Statement by the Forest Conservation Society of America

THESE comments refer to the draft (the third) reported by the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry March 3. They are based on the intrinsic merits (or lack of them) of the bill, and without reference to such, if any, political or other circumstances as may be involved.

They are not critical of Senator Aiken and Congressman Hope (who introduced the companion bill) whose long record of deep interest

and support for forest conservation is well known. But they do reflect our belief that there are aspects of this proposal which, notwithstanding a great deal of study, have not received adequate consideration.

We believe the proposal is unwise and undesirable for reasons we shall give later on.

The general purpose of the bill as stated in the title is: *"to facilitate the administration of national forests and other lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture; to provide for the orderly use, improvement, and development thereof; and for other purposes."*

The phrase "to stabilize the livestock industry dependent thereon" was deleted, but probably remains a general purpose.

Other general purposes stated in the report or by members of the committee on the floor include: to provide incentives to permittees

(Turn to page 38)

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In Opposition to the Proposed Legislation

(From page 36)

to construct range improvements (which it is said they can do cheaper than the government); to write into law various features of present Forest Service policy; to improve the method of handling grazing areas; and to place national forest administration under "the rule of law."

Some important provisions of the proposal are summarized as follows:

1) The Secretary is authorized (and by the report expected) to promote and encourage the construction of range improvements by permittees to the maximum practicable extent.

The grazing permittee is assured compensation for his improvements on a depreciated basis (maximum life 20 years), by the government if he loses their use through governmental action. No other permittee can be allowed to use them until he has compensated the prior permittee on a similar basis. No prior permittee shall be compensated who has abandoned or lost his permit through fault of his own or act of God.

2) Reduction of preference solely on the basis of transfer is prohibited.

3) A new system of appeals is superimposed upon intra-Forest Service appeals from one administrative level to the next higher. This curtails the present flexible authority of the Secretary for the handling of appeals.

With certain exceptions this system of appeals, unlike the provisions about range improvements, is applicable to any action or decision with respect to any land occupancy or use. This is understood to include, for example, the whole gamut of timber management and sale activities. The exceptions referred to above are as to reduction or elimination of use for protection of the land, and as to change from one use to another. These would continue to be subject to the present, or such other appeals arrangement as the Secretary might prescribe. This new system of appeals involves three levels above the Chief of the Forest Service:

First, Upon written request by the appellant an advisory board of three members will be established to review the matter. One member is to be designated by the Secretary from the Department of Agriculture (Forest Service excepted), the second by

the appellant, and the third by the other two members to represent the general public, and who shall be neither a federal nor state employee. If agreement is not reached on this third member within 30 days he shall be appointed by the district court. Members shall receive per diem and expenses. Hearings shall be held in the state where the matter is located. The board shall give its advice and recommendations to the Secretary who will then make his decision.

Second, The appellant may appeal to the Secretary within 60 days after the above decision for a "review de novo." Formal hearings, issuance of subpoenas, and the taking of depositions by the Secretary or his representative, are authorized. Witnesses shall be paid the same fees and mileage as are witnesses in the district courts.

Third, the appellant may appeal from the foregoing decision of the Secretary (under most circumstances) to the district court by petition within 60 days. The court will hear the petition upon the "record of the pleadings, evidence adduced, and proceedings before the Secretary." If the court finds the decision of the Secretary was "arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with the law" it may remand the proceedings to the Secretary with appropriate instructions. It is presumed that these provisions, in effect, spell out the existing right of an aggrieved user to take a case into court, and prevent the court from passing on questions of technical or professional judgment, though what an "abuse of discretion" means that is not encompassed in "capricious" and "arbitrary" is not understood.

Further provisions of the proposal include:

4) Establishment by the Secretary, of multiple-purpose advisory councils, is authorized. They are restricted to the consideration of questions of policy. Per diem and expenses are not authorized. In appointing members consideration must be given to recommendations of officers of organizations representing the principal interests concerned.

5) The Secretary's authority to limit or discontinue occupancy and use for the purpose of preventing in-

jury to the lands, and to change the use of land from one use to another, is safeguarded. It is understood, too, that his authority to make distribution reductions is continued, but actions or decisions in relation thereto would be subject to the new system of appeals.

We consider the proposed legislation very unwise because:

1) It is unnecessary. It involves complex legal questions. Obviously it deals with matters of basic policy. How it would work out in years to come cannot be foretold. But we fear it would lead to great difficulties in, and to hampering or preventing effective administration of the national forests.

There has been adequate general legislative authority to enable the Forest Service for nearly half a century to do what is widely regarded as a generally good job of administering the national forests. An important factor in this has been *flexible authority* to function within certain general Congressional legislative policies and provisions. Failures have been due to *administrative* policies and shortcomings rather than lack of specific legislative prescriptions.

The burden of proof should be upon *adopting* rather than upon *not adopting* this far-reaching proposal. The need for it has not been shown so far as we are aware.

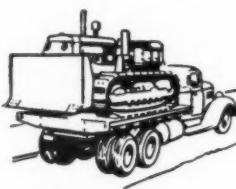
2) Closely related to item No. 1 is the fact that long ago the Supreme Court validated the action of Congress in delegating to the Secretary of Agriculture authority to make rules and regulations governing the occupancy and use of the national forests, which regulations have the force and effect of law (U. S. vs. Grimaud 220 U. S. 506 and Light vs. U. S. 220 U. S. 523, both 1911). In other words the administration of the national forests has been pursuant to rule of law these many years, the implication of the committee to the contrary notwithstanding.

3) Further related to item No. 1 is the fact that the bill would spell into specific law many features of present administrative policy, practice, and authority. For example, it is understood that the Secretary now has authority to enter into substantially the kind of agreements with grazing permittees regarding range

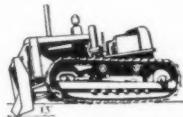
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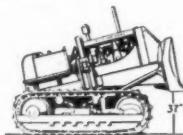
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In Opposition to the Proposed Legislation

(From page 38)

improvements that are prescribed by this bill. It must be safe to freeze in specific legislation some of these policies and practices. Others may need to be modified as circumstances change. It will be much more difficult to obtain revision by legislation than by administrative regulation.

4) The bill is, in part, a special interest proposal. While it sets up a new appeals procedure applicable to administrative actions and decisions with respect to all land occupancy and use, it provides special treatment and guarantees only for range improvements. We certainly do not advocate some type of legislative guarantees for other categories of improvements. But we believe that efforts to widen the scope of such provisions are bound to follow, sooner or later.

5) The appeals prescription is much more complicated than present procedure, and restricts unwisely the Secretary's present authority in handling appeals. The make-up of the three-member board might operate to weight it in favor of the appellant. The proposed system could lead to a very burdensome or possibly intolerable load of long-drawn-out appeals in process. This is notwithstanding that a wholesale resort to the courts may be deterred by the fact that the appellant, if not sustained, must pay the costs.

6) The provisions for the establishment and use of multiple-purpose advisory councils represent undesirable limitation on the Secretary's present authority and practice. Moreover they might lead to weighting membership in favor of the larger interests and away from the small users.

7) The policy enunciated with respect to range improvements will probably have the effect of minimizing still further the meager funds available to the Forest Service for the construction of range improvements. Public construction of range improvements on the national forests has the advantage of enabling greater flexibility in the management and use of related resources.

Finally the legislation raises two

questions of over-riding importance which are discussed in the next two items. The conservation of national forest ranges is a crucial factor in the economy of the United States. They can help to underwrite a healthy permanent livestock industry with its needed products. And even more important is their function in safeguarding the water supply of every important western irrigation project, and of most western cities. To render these and other services, the ranges must be built up and maintained at their highest feasible level of productivity.

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee on Elections to nominate officers for The American Forestry Association for 1955 is now accepting nominations from the membership. Deadline is September 1. Dr. Samuel T. Dana, former dean of the School of Natural Resources, University of Michigan, is chairman of the committee. Members are George W. Dean, state forester, Department of Conservation and Development, State of Virginia, and W. D. Hagenstein, forest engineer, Industrial Forestry Association, Portland, Oregon. Suggestions for the committee should be addressed to the Committee on Elections, The American Forestry Association, 919 17th Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

The first question is whether the enactment would not retard rather than advance conservation of the range resource in the national forests. Building up national forest ranges has been a long-drawn-out and very difficult job, one which is not yet completed. The chief difficulties have come from the opposition of the group of stockmen who have tried to obtain special legislation favorable to them. While the present bill does not meet their demands, we are convinced that the effect of its enactment, with its complex and time-consuming system of

appeals, and the likelihood of private investments on problem ranges, and the provisions regarding administrative procedures would be to retard rather than to facilitate the correction of misuse of the ranges and the making of needed adjustments, and to make administration more cumbersome.

The second of these two questions is whether the proposed legislation would not be a definite step toward the establishment of private or vested rights in public property. We do not challenge the assurances that have been given that this proposal of itself would not establish vested interests in national forest lands or in their use. But the establishment of private or vested rights is not necessarily solely a matter of legal language and provisions. They can develop through a process of evolution. Certain intangibles are involved. In the present situation there is, for one thing, the background of demands by the stockmen. Unhappily, we believe the enactment of this bill would help set the stage for progress toward the establishment of such rights. Among the reasons are:

a) In some degree the bill provides the same legal means for the protection of privileges on the national forests that are customarily provided for the protection of private property and private rights.

b) The bill would spell into law certain administrative policies and procedures that have hitherto been subject to the Secretary's flexible authority and regulations under more general legislation. In certain respects his authority is definitely curtailed.

c) This bill, if enacted, may readily become an entering wedge and be followed by even more aggressive efforts by stockmen's and other organizations to obtain objectives which this bill would not satisfy. It may be followed by efforts of other groups to obtain corresponding advantages.

Let us not adopt legislation that would make it more difficult in the long run to maintain range use as a privilege rather than as a private right.

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WISE management and use of our forest resources is a fundamental issue of our times," according to Leon H. Gavin, U. S. Representative from Pennsylvania.

Speaking at a recent "baked apple" meeting of the Washington, D. C., chapter of the Society of American Foresters, the Quaker State Republican said that "those who deal with the people and resources of our nation know that only by maintaining an abundance of timber and other essential resources can the high standard of living to which we are accustomed be continued."

Eulogizing Gifford Pinchot as the man responsible for bringing the word "conservation" into the American vocabulary and the principle of wise use and management of resources into the national thinking, Rep. Gavin told the foresters: "You . . . here tonight and foresters throughout the world have the responsibility of keeping it there—and of enlarging on all efforts of the past toward a sounder management and a wiser use of our forests. The restoration of our soil, water, wildlife and timber resources to full productivity throughout our nation should be your constant ambition and goal. Every day we have several more thousand people added to our population . . . for the long range defense

The speaker said that despite the critics who invariably appear in the wake of progressive leadership and accomplishment in the field of natural resources there are now thousands of persons who recognize the real value of the public forests for every individual who would dissipate or dissolve those forests which Pinchot helped to establish. He added: "For the selfish few who would unmercifully cut the timber and gouge the soil from the priceless watersheds of our nation there are thousands who appreciate the water and soil-holding power of a tree and do much to protect it. And a special tribute should go to the many sportsmen's organizations . . . throughout our land for the courageous manner in which they stand up and fight for the wellbeing of our forests and streams."

Referring to the problem of getting better cutting practices on the woodlands of the private owner, Rep. Gavin said that in Pennsylvania, like the nation as a whole, 75 percent of the forests are in private ownership. He recalled that in 1949 he had the pleasure of participating in the dedication ceremony of the first tree farm in northern Pennsylvania and that he had experienced "much satisfaction in helping to get this joint effort of the private landowners and the technical foresters off

needs of a growing nation go unnoticed."

Rep. Gavin continued: "Many think of industrial development in the terms of coal, iron and the lighter alloys of metals. However, in the places where there is little or no wood available to a people you find them also deficient in the products of these other materials. In many parts of the world people have only stone, adobe, brush-and-mud, or the skins of animals with which to build houses, because wood is scarce or entirely lacking. It is only in the United States that one can travel from coast to coast and see millions of beautiful houses, both large and small, built from wood. In some places a bundle of fagots or sticks is the difference between being cold or comfortable. Here in America a match or cigarette carelessly handled can, on occasion, burn up more wood than is available through an entire century to the people in some lands."

"In many countries the incessant use of the ax has made an eroded waste land out of great watersheds. Floods come and unbelievable suffering and hardship follow. Half starved animals roam in search of a tuft of grass or a chance seedling to devour. Fish and game are non-

(Turn to page 44)

The Significance of Forestry

Rep. Gavin of Pennsylvania tells Society of American Foresters that forest resources management is "a fundamental issue of our times"

and security of this nation together with an abundant economy, more acres of woodland must be made and kept productive in each passing day."

**The "baked apple" tradition of the Society of American Foresters dates back to the turn of the century when Gifford Pinchot opened his home to meetings of the then struggling group. It was Mr. Pinchot's custom, after the paper of the evening and the discussion, to invite the group to adjourn to the spacious dining room, panelled high in black walnut, where an ample supply of baked apples and gingerbread was always ready. It was at these "Baked Apple Club" meetings that many important forestry questions were settled. The meeting at which Rep. Gavin spoke was held in the same dining room as the earlier meetings, with Mrs. Pinchot as hostess.*

to a good start." One group cannot succeed without the help of the other, he said, adding that "herein lies the challenge—for all foresters whether federal, state, industry or private to work together in guiding and directing the private landowner and timber operator, more particularly the small ones, to better forestry practices."

However, the speaker warned: "As technical foresters you cannot discharge your duties if you are blinded by the rays of the sun as you look into the crown of an individual tree while the great panorama which includes rivers and streams, soils and terrain, game and fish, livestock and ranges, recreational areas and people, timber and mills, and the future



Rep. Leon H. Gavin (R., Pennsylvania)

Parks or Pavements?

(From page 30)

traffic downtown. Rock Creek Park, so much treasured by President T. R. Roosevelt, and so much used by Washingtonians and visitors to the Nation's Capital, would lose the area required for the freeway and the use and enjoyments of a wide strip on either side within sound of the swishing traffic. To the park-minded person such an intrusion is unthinkable, either, as first proposed, along Rock Creek stream, or on the highlands to the west where picnickers seek seclusion and motorists pause on the winding roads to watch the horses take the barrier jumps. But the District Highway Department sees only a *free site* for the arterial expressway. And this, in spite of the fact that far-seeing L'Enfant laid out a number of broad thoroughfares with rights of way on either side which have been and are being used as front yards by the abutting property owners, so that all the District has to do is to claim these strips if it needs wider street space.

And Rock Creek Park is not the only area in the federal city threatened with unseemly and incompatible uses. There is the proposed E Street Bridge across the Potomac River. This high-level bridge would start from the District side directly over the beautiful Titanic Memorial and would place its abutments on Theodore Roosevelt Island, purchased by the Memorial Association and given to the federal government to be maintained as a *natural park*, with a signed agreement that all plans for the island shall be approved by the Association. It does not seem likely that Congress will abrogate this agreement or that the Association will ever consent to heavy bridge abutments on the island.

And so throughout the country, our urban parks and parkways are threatened by short-sighted plans to destroy and intrude upon these dedicated areas to serve ever-increasing traffic which progressively destroys itself by hopeless congestion. I be-

lieve that the automobilists of the United States (and I am one of those who first drove across the Continent in 1923 mostly over unpaved roads) are willing that the federal, state and local share of highway and bridge costs shall be met from appropriate gasoline taxes. What we need is good planning with each facility in its right place. And such planning would probably prove an economy as well as a service to the American people.

I might say that these same principles apply to state and national parks, which are not the places for through expressways but rather are dedicated areas to be served with a minimum of park roads laid out according to park principles for park visitors rather than for passing-through traffic. But that is really another story.

In all the towns and cities of our great land let us not sell our park heritage for a mess of expressways and garages!

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Light-weight — easy to carry.
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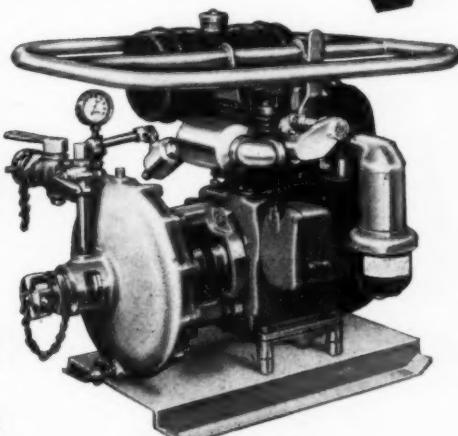
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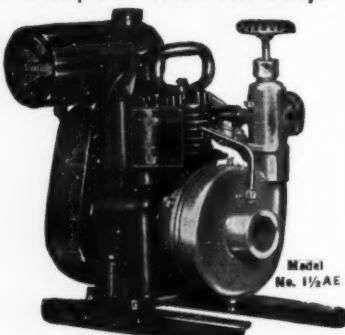
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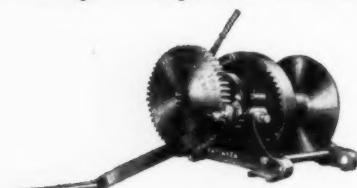
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The Significance of Forestry

(From page 42)

existent and millions of people can't take to the woods for a week end in the forest.

"The problems one sees in forestry around the world are much the same as we might have encountered here in the United States. That some nations failed to solve these problems is shown by barren hillsides and wasted plains, dust bowls so to speak, something which has been experienced in some sections of our country as a result of poor land use. Fortunately, for us here in America we have stopped, or at least slowed, the prolific waste of a great forest heritage. We have been guilty at times of a wanton destruction of our resources for in our haste to build and create material things we have failed to deposit anything in nature's bank in many places. One only has to ride

through millions of acres of timberland that have been seriously overcut, repeatedly burned and unregenerated to good trees to see what I mean. And the demands of two global wars have left their mark on our forests."

The Pennsylvania Congressman said, however, that he was sure that through the efforts of foresters "conservation" and "wise use" will be maintained and enhanced in the minds and actions of the American people.

"The profession that Pinchot started in this nation has grown in stature and importance. It is looked upon with admiration and respect. I am sure that it is in good hands, which is a tribute to both your society and to the man who started it," he concluded.

The Trees of Vallambrosa

(From page 16)

southern Europe for a long time. They have supplied fuel and food from the rough borderlands of cultivation and pasture with the least amount of care. Nevertheless they are probably, in this form anyway, on their way out. Farmers prefer wheat to chestnut flour and gas to charcoal; and lately they have been increasingly able to afford the better choice. Italy needs chestnut trees more than ever, but for different purposes. Hence such picturesque and park-like stands will give way to tall dense timber.

The word Vallambrosa means several things. To the travelers it refers to the group of inns placed by the highway where the mountain slope levels off for a few hundred yards before the final upward sweep to the craggy top of Sacchieto. To the forester it means the forest headquarters, the sawmill, and arboretum of many hundreds of species, Italy's oldest and largest. But to most people and for the longest time, Vallambrosa has meant the great Benedictine monastery rambling over acres of gardens, courts, towers, chapels and hallways.

The founder of this imposing pile was a nobleman of Florence named

Giovanni Gualberto Visdomini, who arrived to stay some nine centuries ago. His life story proves him to be a man of considerable originality and force of character.

The Italy into which he was born had not yet drawn itself away from the violence and disorder of the Dark Ages. What the times needed was a respite from irresponsible warring and revenge, and real leaders who could turn away from feuds and quarrels to the work of building an order of justice and peace.

Visdomini was such a leader. The crisis of his life came when he forgave his cornered and helpless enemy, the killer of his brother. He thereupon turned away from the barren career of bloodshed and violence to which his noble birth condemned him and sought out Vallambrosa as the scene of his pioneering in the wilderness.

The story says that he arrived late one winter evening. Anyone who has climbed that hill knows how tired he must have been when he lay down beneath a beech tree and slept. Next morning the snow was falling hard, but the tree had closed its limbs around for protection and the

earth had opened up a spring for him to drink.

The old chronicles tell many tales of his wonderful powers and doings. His terrible eye could turn back floods, calm storms, and outface the hungriest bear. He could walk through fire and produce loaves of bread from an empty basket. He had the thoroughly medieval knack of casting out devils and the thoroughly modern one of being able to catch large and tasty trout where others had failed.

Pioneer times often produce such tales, and we are dealing with a pioneer. Early pictures of Vallambrosa show it much as Fort Ticonderoga or Schuyler must have appeared in the early days of New York, with small wood and sod huts, palisades, and bears peering out from the dark and untamed forest. In fact I thought immediately of the local hero of my own Otsego County in New York, upon whose farm I now live. He was a frontier character named Timothy Murphy who developed special ways of dealing with Indians, redcoats and bears. No doubt our descendants will view whooping, scalping Mohawks much as we do the medieval agents of Hell.

What these stories really prove is that San Giovanni Gualberto Visdomini was an outstanding person, with a clear perception of what his country needed and an indomitable energy in going after it. He imposed upon himself and his companions a simple rule of work and prayer imported from Monte Cassino. He rounded up the idle and irresponsible of the neighborhood and set them to work clearing land, controlling floods and planting trees. Fortunately he did not destroy the forest. On the contrary he founded a tradition of silviculture which has lasted to this day. When the state took over the property in 1861, it acquired not barren waste but productive timberlands. By virtue of his love of trees he has become the patron saint of foresters and he well deserves that honor.

By the time I had rounded up this information from the monks, the innkeepers and the forest rangers, the promised bus had returned and it was time to leave. The vesper bells were ringing and the sun, drawing its light from the western sky toward the Sardinian Sea, was again throwing shadows and night over the stately forest of Vallambrosa.

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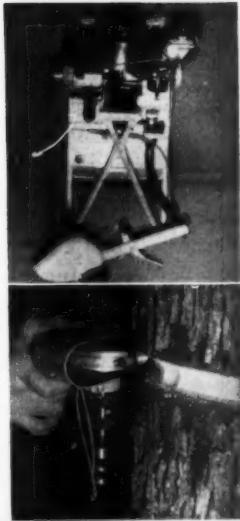


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Park Service Adjusts Fees

ACTING upon instructions from the Bureau of the Budget, Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay has made several changes and additions to the schedule of fees to be collected from visitors to the national parks, monuments, and other areas administered by the National Park Service.

In the new fee schedule are the following changes:

At Shenandoah National Park, the present 25-cent charge for a trip automobile permit has been upped to 50 cents, though the annual fee of \$1 remains unchanged. This brings Shenandoah's fee structure in line with those charged generally in the national parks, with the annual fee

Teton National Park (separated from Yellowstone by less than six miles) without further payment; and the holder of the Grand Teton permit could apply the amount of his payment therefor to his purchase of a Yellowstone permit. This practice is now to be discontinued. At Yellowstone, the house trailer fees have been increased from \$1 to \$3 for a 15-day permit and from \$2 to \$6 for an annual permit.

At Grand Teton also, 15-day permits for motorcycles and house trailers will cost \$1, and annual permits \$2, the same as for passenger automobiles.

The new scale at Yosemite National Park, Calif., will be \$3 for 15-

"FORESTS" COVERS ALL — A group of life and patron members who happened to call at AFA headquarters on the same day started discussing, among other matters, whether the name of the association's magazine, "American Forests," shouldn't be changed to more truly show AFA's deep interest in all resources, including our forests. One of the participants in the discussion was Horace C. Jenkins, of Philadelphia, a linguist of note who has also helped to compile dictionaries and similar works. Mr. Jenkins was against the idea and upon reaching home wrote the following letter to explain why. His letter follows:

"Anent your recent wistful remarks that it would be wonderful if our AFA monthly magazine had a name which would indicate our interest in the conservation of all our natural resources, I'm happy to assure you that the present name *does do just that!* The word *forest* is derived from the Latin *foris* or *foras* meaning 'out of doors.' In late Latin, the adjective *forestis* was applied to any tract of ground outside the city walls. The narrowing of the meaning of the word to apply chiefly to trees is comparatively recent. I believe that our forestry schools correctly use the word 'sylviculture' to describe courses dealing with trees.

"When our Annual Meeting was in Wheeling, West Virginia, I wrote a verse to the well known tune of *alma mater*, one line of which reads: 'To save the trees, wildlife, soil, waters.' Even that long ago, it seemed clear that the broad purpose of AFA *does* include all our natural resources!"

double that charged for a trip permit. Also at Shenandoah commercial passenger vehicle fees in amounts of \$3.50 per passenger seat for an annual permit, \$1 per passenger seat for a quarterly permit, \$2 per day for a 5-passenger vehicle and \$10 per day for a more than 5-passenger vehicle are being established in lieu of the present commercial sightseeing bus fee of \$5 per trip. The commercial passenger vehicle fees are not applicable, however, to automobiles rented for personal use as distinguished from taxicabs.

Hitherto, a motor vehicle fee paid at Yellowstone National Park has entitled the holder to enter Grand

day permits for passenger cars and house trailers, with an annual fee of \$6. Previously, these had been \$2 and \$4 for passenger automobiles, and \$1 and \$2 for house trailers. The Yosemite motorcycle fees of \$1 for a 15-day permit and \$2 for an annual permit are unchanged. At Glacier National Park, Mont., and at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Calif., 15-day permits for automobiles and house trailers go from \$1 to \$2; annual permits from \$2 to \$4. The joint fee arrangement for Sequoia and Kings Canyon is unchanged.

At present, a single automobile fee is charged for entrance to Bryce

Canyon and Zion National Park, in Utah. While the amount of the fees is unchanged, they will henceforth be collected at each park.

At a number of historical areas and structures where the former fee has been 10 cents including federal tax, the fee has now been changed to 25 cents. This change applies to Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, Florida; Fort McHenry National Monument, Maryland; Fort Pulaski National Monument, Georgia; Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, North Carolina; the Moore House at Colonial National Historical Park, Va.; the museum and Ford Mansion at Morristown National Historical Park, N. J.; Point Park at Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park, Tenn. and Ga.; the museum of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County National Military Park; and the Lee Mansion National Memorial, Va.

Admission fees of 25 cents are established for the McLean House at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Va.; George Washington Birthplace National Monument, Va.; the museum at Manassas Battlefield Park, Va.; the museum at Vicksburg National Military Park,

Miss.; and Tonto, Tuzigoot and Walnut Canyon National Monuments, Ariz.

At Carlsbad Caverns National Park, N. Mex., the former guide fee of \$1.10, including federal tax, becomes \$1.50; it will not be put into effect, however, until the new elevator facilities, costing approximately \$1,450,000, are in operation. At Mammoth Cave National Park, Ky., trips of varying length, for which guide fees ranging from \$1.10 to \$2.20, including federal tax, have been charged, are increased to range from \$1.25 to \$2.25. At Wind Cave National Park, S. Dak., the former 50-cent fee is increased to 75 cents including federal tax.

At Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Georgia, there will be a new trip fee of 50 cents for automobiles and motorcycles, and an annual fee of \$1.

In all those places at which personal admission or guide fees are charged, children under 12, when accompanied by adults, will continue to be given free admission or guide service. Groups of school children 18 years of age or under will also be admitted or guided without charge.

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Reading About Conservation

By ARTHUR B. MEYER

FEW of us would hesitate to admit that we regard the subject of flood control with a degree of confusion. It is obviously an involved subject, characterized by a divergence of views. A new book, *The Flood Control Controversy* (By Luna Leopold and Thomas Maddock, Jr. Roland Press, 278 pp. \$5), whose authors are hydraulic engineers, was written with the avowed purpose of helping the reader to better understand the much publicized running argument between the proponents of big dams and the advocates of little dams. It most likely will not settle the controversy but it should serve to settle some of the wheat from the chaff that blows about the subject. The authors pull no punches in expressing their opinions. They do so, though, only after marshalling the facts and then interpreting those facts as professional workers.

"When rain falls upon the earth, an astonishing amount of water is involved." An inch on the 40,000 square-mile state of Ohio adds up to 650 billion gallons of water, or enough to cover two million acres of land to the depth of one foot. That is a lot of water. And an inch of rain is no cloudburst in many parts of the United States.

Ordinarily (although weather is usually not ordinary) the water that runs off the land surface into streams after a storm is less than half the rain that fell. The rest is retained in the soil, or evaporated, or goes into underground reservoirs. The nature of the land, its cover, and its treatment affect the volume of runoff to a degree, but a degree the significance of which rapidly diminishes as the volume, or rate, of rainfall increases.

The amount of surface runoff that a stream channel can handle, like the volume of water that falls out of a cloud, is remarkable. It is subject, however, to much more definite restrictions than those that control weather and therefore volume and rate of rainfall. When it receives more water than it can handle be-

tween its banks, the stream overflows its banks and spreads out over the surrounding territory. This constitutes a flood. The area inundated is called the stream's flood plain, and becomes a temporary part of the stream channel. This is nature's method of handling the excess water and passing it along toward the sea.

In the study of river flood plains science leads to the conclusion that floods every few years, actually with a more or less definite sequence, are normal in the history of rivers, and have been far before our time. The mere existence of the flood plain proves it. "The works of man may alter the channel or change somewhat the vegetation-soil relationships on the watershed and thus affect or modify floods, but man is not the



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cause of floods." In areas of proper climate there will continue to be periods when more rain falls than the watershed can absorb, more rain than the stream channel can handle without going over its banks, and water will cover varying portions of the flood plain.

Flood damage may be reduced on the flood plain by zoning and by flood warnings. The first restricts physical uses that might as well, or better, be located on higher ground out of flood reach. The second, flood warning, is the basis for evacuating people, but may additionally permit the removal of property or its preparation to lessen the damage from the waters.

It is also possible to gain varying degrees of actual physical protection from floods—each degree at a higher cost—but without the possibility of ever attaining complete protection. (1) We can take measures to pass water down the stream in ways that will do the least damage. This includes building levees or flood walls; making the natural stream channel bigger; removing obstructions in it; and by combinations of these and other means. (2) We can take steps to temporarily hold varying portions of the flood waters at some upstream point, so that the flood comes downstream at a slower rate, spread over a longer time. Water can be detained in this manner: (a) in the soil; (b) behind dams.

The ability of the soil to retain water may be increased by land management measures. The dams may be numerous small ones on the headwaters; or a much smaller number of large ones on the mainstem of the stream. Land management and small dams constitute upstream flood control measures. The large dams and other flood plain engineering steps constitute downstream measures.

Both upstream and downstream measures of flood control have a certain value, but opinions as to the importance of the various techniques differ, as does interest in who and what are to be protected, and how money can be spent most wisely. The upstream approach to flood control is embodied in the program of the Department of Agriculture; the downstream by the work of the Army Corps of Engineers.

At the risk of oversimplification it might be said that idealistically the Corps is concerned with large engineering measures along the big rivers, a work originally conceived in the light of the prevention of

disasters. The Department, on the other hand, is concerned with upstream measures that are meant to improve watershed water retention and the prevention of flood damage on upstream lands by small engineering works.

The place of land management in this whole matter is interesting. The science of hydrology has demonstrated that land management *without water detention structures* reduces flood damage from minor storms in small drainage basins. As the drainage area gets larger and the volume of rainfall involved gets greater, the effect of these measures becomes decreasingly important. When the unusual period of rain comes along, the great flood, the effect of land management in reducing *downstream* flood damage is negligible. The Department of Agriculture has recognized these limited effects, for structural measures have become an important part of its upstream programs. According to results cited by the authors, the major benefits of land management measured in relation to cost comes in increased productiveness from the land, which accrues to the owner. Land management, however, has some long-term significance in the life of large reservoirs by the prevention of erosion and the subsequent reduction of siltation. The result is that land management measures are not involved in the conflict between downstream and upstream interests.

"The conflict centers around the recommendations for upstream and downstream reservoirs;" whether construction of big dams is going ahead too rapidly; whether *methods by which they are demonstrated to be economically justified are acceptable*. It is also concerned with how effective small upstream dams are on floods under varying conditions, and the *methods by which such effects are estimated*; and with who should build the smaller dams.

Two major portions of this book deal with the programs and procedures of each of the two agencies. To attempt to summarize the authors' criticisms, considering that they wrote a book to explain them, may be presumptuous. However books are written to be read, and must risk misinterpretation. Major criticisms of the Corps centers about the question of financial justification of the benefits of great structures as compared with the cost ("... it has spent, largely between 1928 and 1952, about \$3,600,000,000 . . ."); and the fact that it "has given little

attention to nonengineering methods of reducing flood damage, particularly flood plain zoning." The Department, on the other hand, "has not analyzed the effect of small dams on flood runoff in the detail which logically might be expected. . ." The authors show that although such structures have a marked effect in their immediate locality, they do not have great influence on the conditions that produce large floods from a large drainage area.

In addition to this, multiple-purpose uses of large reservoirs, for hydroelectric power, recreation, etc., tend to cloud the issue on the value of Corps impoundments. The Corps does not discourage inclusion of such benefits in justifying expenditures for flood control. The Department, in a like manner, has not succeeded, if it has tried, to help the public distinguish between measures of good land management and soil conservation, which are capable of standing on their own merits, and upstream work for flood control. Both are selling "flood control plus." At a time when we are, the authors tell us, spending an amount of money on flood control and its related programs that constitutes one of the largest single financial activities of the federal government other than national defense, we should know just what we are buying under the label "flood control." Furthermore, the costs of the programs are to a vast extent carried by the general public, with but a minute share borne by those who directly benefit. More contributions by beneficiaries might, in the authors' opinion "provide a check or limit to flood control programs so that they would bear a more reasonable relation to the many other justifiable ways" of developing our water resources.

It should not be interpreted that this book is written in the vein of a blanket condemnation. It is not. It is written in the manner of two men who know the science of their subject matter, and are undertaking, in as detached a presentation as possible, to acquaint their readers with the facts as they see them and with their views as they hold them.

The book is sponsored by the Conservation Foundation and was written while its authors were on leave from positions with the federal government. In its foreword Leopold and Maddock gratefully acknowledge the help of the various agencies of the government, especially the Department of Agriculture and the Corps of Engineers.

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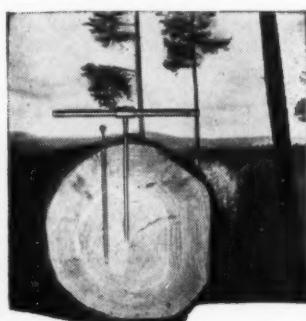
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They Never Retire

(From page 13)

ice. Every government agency must guard against the fatal dry rot which sets in with age. A criticism often hurled against old-line agencies is that they are backward rather than forward looking, unable to adjust to the times.

"It seemed to me that the magnificent organization which Pinchot, Graves, Greeley, and others had put together could not remain aggressive unless leadership rested with young men. Domination by old-timers would sap the crusading spirit and impair the Forest Service's crucial role.

"One of my persistent tasks, therefore, was to find vigorous and capable younger men to replace those who dropped out of positions of leadership through retirement or other causes. A study made a few years ago showed that the average age of the incumbents of the top 50 positions in the Forest Service was about eight years less than it had been ten years previously.

"Moreover, the Service started to build a tradition of early retirement—about 62 years of age. This tradition is still largely in effect. I have lived up to it myself by retiring at 62, and am still convinced that it is sound both for the individual and the organization."

Since Lyle Watts is one of the best informed men on the over-all forestry situation in the United States, AMERICAN FORESTS was anxious to know his present views on this subject.

"Great progress," he said, "has been made in the management of private timberlands, particularly in the past 15 years. This is most evident in the type of forestry practiced by industrial owners. It has been a great satisfaction to me to see the

spread of forestry on private lands—to watch Gifford Pinchot's preachers take root. Many industrial owners, employing well-trained young foresters, are doing a creditable job in handling their lands—but some are not.

"Nor must we forget that over half of our commercial woodland is in the hands of small owners, and despite a substantial increase in farm forestry education and tree planting, there is little to be complacent about in that type of ownership—especially when we remember that the hard core of forest products for a growing American population must come from small holdings. Progress is just too slow.

"One of the answers to the problem of how to align forest management with the greatest good of the greatest number—to use a hackneyed phase—is, I think, some type of control of cutting on private lands. Many of my friends in the industry will object, perhaps strenuously, to such an approach. Yet the first steps in this direction have been taken by many states including California, Oregon and Washington. Unfortunately, they are merely a promising beginning since in no state are timber cutting requirements adequate for the proper management of second-growth stands.

"The kind of regulation I would advocate is a combination of state and federal control, the states enacting the laws and doing the regulatory job on the basis of broad requirements established by the federal government much as in Clarke-McNary fire control activities."

Since Mr. Watts is now a resident of Portland, Oregon and is active in conservation movements in the Pacific Northwest, AMERICAN FORESTS asked what he thought of the forest situation in this region, which contains the bulk of America's sawtimber.

"You ask about the forestry situation in this region," Mr. Watts continued. "If you mean intensive forestry, I will say it's hard to find any. There probably won't be until we have a profitable market for small material. That means a much greater demand from pulp and paper mills. To me it is clear that such a demand will come rapidly yet our Pacific Northwest foresters seem satisfied with a stand of 400 to 500 trees per acre—instead of 1000 to 1500—

say ten years after the old growth is cut. That sort of an understocked stand will mean the loss of an improvement thinning in 25 years, and perhaps a second thinning in 40 years. It will also mean a poor quality of sawlogs when the forest matures 100 years hence. We might call this half-loaf forestry.

"I am uneasy that too much emphasis is being placed on the rapid harvesting of old-growth Douglasfir stands because of overmaturity. We sort of rationalize the overcutting of sawtimber in Oregon by overstressing losses in virgin stands. I do not underrate the need for salvage and sanitation cuttings to aid in insect and disease control, but one may well be concerned about a cut of nearly ten billion board feet in Oregon in 1952 with a total sawlog volume of only 314 billion feet in the state, or a cut of 4.3 billion feet in Washington with a total sawlog stand of 238 billion feet. It's so easy to forget that if we are to have an adequate supply of sawlogs in the future our old-growth forests must be spread out until the second growth matures.

"But beyond this is the fact that current old-growth cutting in the Northwest is not distributed in accordance with the present stand. Too many lumber-producing centers are rapidly cutting their accessible timber and while undercutting the inaccessible mountain stands. We need more access roads and fewer sawmills in too many places in Oregon and parts of Washington.

"Then, too, in Washington and Oregon we have more than two and two-thirds million acres of so-called commercial cutover forest that is less than ten percent stocked. We have another one and a half million acres from ten to 40 percent stocked with seedlings and saplings. We have more than a million acres of pole-size stands less than 40 percent stocked. We boast of planting about 50,000 acres a year—and a lot of that planting is on newly cutover lands. At the rate we're going it will take at least 100 years to plant up the commercial forest land in the Pacific Northwest that will not produce a crop except by reforestation.

"I am pleased with the start made in small block cutting in the Douglasfir region. Yet one should not be misled by the pictures and publicity. As I travel over the state of Oregon I see that cutting is still almost entirely in large blocks. Examples of small block cutting in Douglasfir are so rare that one stops to admire it.

"I am too old to stick my head in

the sand all the time. We have barely scratched the surface of real forestry in the Pacific Northwest, and we brag too much about the little we have done.

"I wish we could speed up the adoption of intensive forestry on industrial holdings and get more of even the beginnings of forestry on small holdings.

"The tremendous population increase predicted for the United States and the potential market for forest products in a world short of wood point to the urgent need of making our commercial forest land really produce. We will not meet the nation's demand for wood in say 50 years with half-loaf forestry. And I am sure that much stronger public controls than we now have is an essential part of any adequate, long-time program.

"During the past year I have been chairman of the Interim Committee for the Study of Water Resources of Oregon. Recently we held 15 public hearings throughout the state. At almost every hearing sharp criticism was voiced about the management of forest and range lands. Siltation of streams and reservoirs arising from harmful logging practices is being increasingly recognized here as in the

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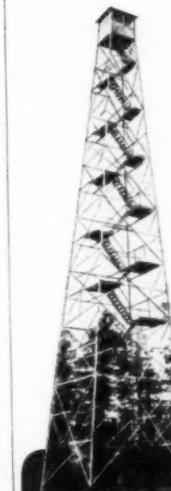
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eastern sections of the United States. Considering the tremendous value of the water resource to western farms, ranches and communities, it is clear that watershed land-use must be of such a character as to do minimum damage to the quality and quantity of streamflow. If the hearings we have just concluded are indicative of the popular temper in the Pacific Northwest we may expect some sort of controls on logging methods, and particularly logging-road construction and skidding practices, in addition to more controls on timber cutting.

What are your impressions of the present administration's natural resources policies? Mr. Watts was asked.

"I am very much disturbed about the present situation," he replied. "A pattern is developing that must alarm those who are interested in conservation. The administration at the outset promised it would stand by the conservation policies of Teddy Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot. But it is not going in that direction.

"For example, it has already divested itself of the offshore oil properties worth billions of dollars. It has taken a position on public power that is just the opposite to Teddy Roosevelt's philosophy as evidenced by the Hells Canyon damsite for which the Idaho Power Company is fighting. Likewise, the partnership proposed for the John Day dam on the main Columbia River would substitute private control for public control of a tremendous power resource.

"The proposal to build a huge dam and reservoir within the Dinosaur National Monument shows that the administration places little value on the inviolability of our national parks and monuments. Decimation of the Bonneville Power Administration will remove it as an effective agency in planning for power development in the Pacific Northwest.

"Nor are these all the things that disturb me. The reorganization of the Soil Conservation Service has just about wrecked the great agency which Hugh Bennett developed. Substitution of political acceptancy for career accomplishments is becoming the touchstone for appointments to top positions in the Soil Conserva-

tion Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and many other technical conservation agencies. In fairness, I should add that the administration does favor more research in most conservation fields.

"The Budget Bureau has been niggardly in its recommendations of funds for some vital conservation programs. I am thinking particularly of the Forest Service. Here are examples of *cuts* recommended by the Bureau in the budget for fiscal 1955: maintenance of improvements, \$283,000; tree planting, \$450,000; reseeding worn-out range land, \$300,000; forest fire control on private lands, \$500,000.

"Fortunately, several of these cuts recommended by the President's budget were restored by House action. I hope the Senate concurs.

"I agree fully with Ira Gabrielson, ex-chief of the Fish and Wildlife Service when he writes, 'The new administration has had a year to find itself and to establish a conservation program. In general, it can be said that no constructive, progressive program for advancing conservation activities has yet been developed, and little interest has been shown by the two great departments (Agriculture and Interior) responsible for the most important of our conservation estate in protecting the gains made in the past.'

"The Agriculture Department failed to get in the record a strong position against the D'Ewart grazing bill (H.R. 4023), which was killed in the last sessions. It reported adversely on the Ellsworth timber bill (H.R. 4646), but later withdrew that report only to find that Congressional action recommitted the bill to committee by a vote of 226 to 161. I am unable to get a current adverse report on D'Ewart's mining bill (H.R. 4983) despite the fact that it will in no way really solve the mining claim problem.

"Similarly, the Interior Department testified favorably on the D'Ewart grazing bill and Ellsworth's timber bill as well as on the D'Ewart mining bill.

"I knew Gifford Pinchot well," Mr. Watts declared. "He talked to me by the hour about the plans he and Teddy Roosevelt had for conservation and use of our natural resources. I am sure they would be amazed that this administration claims to be following in their footsteps."

The Gentle Touch

(From page 27)

him no quarter. He played him direct and fast and the next time he broke he was yards closer. He went down and stayed down after that and spent his strength cutting back and forth while all the time he was being drawn in. Soapy netted him neatly himself, another rainbow, almost identical in length and weight to our first pair.

Then it became the spinners turn. Just where the inlet ran into the lake, he struck fast and hard as we were halfway around. He batted the string of metal with a vicious side-wise slash and both lure and fish seem to skip across the surface for a short distance. When the barb bit into his lip he didn't wait; he came up in a half roll and then went down.

"This time you've really got your hands full," Soapy said.

NOMINATIONS for the annual "Distinguished Service Awards" of the American Forestry Association topped the 50 mark on June 15, deadline for filing entries, according to Awards Chairman Robert N. Hoskins. Five winners will be selected from this group and those chosen will be named at AFA's annual meeting Sept. 6-9 in Portland, Oregon. Mr. Hoskins said the presentations filed for candidates this year are the most impressive on record. Some presentations are from 60 to 70 pages long, he said, and as many as 50 letters have been received for a single candidate.

The trout came out of the water in a high leap and tried to shake free, but the hook held and he submerged furious at the clatter clinging to his jaw. He went only deep enough to get a running start and tried once more to dislodge the barb in mid-air, but the combination of good luck and a sharp point was in my favor and when he dropped with a loud crack he was yet a possible. He ripped 20 yards of line off my reel in nothing flat, reversed and came at us with express train speed. Almost within touching distance he came up and gave us a close look, dropped back and began to fight in earnest. He shook, he rolled and did loops half in, half out of the water until I was sure my line would be a 24 carat snarl. Once he surfaced and

fairly walked on the water with his tail.

"If he ain't part Chinook I'm a gopher," Soapy murmured from behind me.

But he was a long way from being through, for sure. I managed to keep him away from the boat and after a moment he turned away and struck out for the lake. He pulled off line as if the first time had been a practice session and when I checked him, he spun about and went to the bottom.

"Gently now," Soapy warned me again. "Don't let him fool you. Takes a soft touch, but a firm one."

I heard the advice and I was trying to comply. I hoarded slack and gave way when he demanded it. I did my best to keep him shallow but I didn't force the issue. His long, wild runs shortened and he didn't break water again. He stayed just below the darkening surface of the water and circled slowly, doggedly about. I coaxed him closer. He came in, unwillingly, caught a close-up glimpse of the boat and broke for the bottom once more, but it was a short run and the next time Soapy filled the net with him. Five pounds of exploding, silvery dynamite.

It was almost dark and Soapy began to take in his tackle. I followed suit, neither of us saying anything, both just thinking about that last one. Maybe there is something to that tale about Eagle Nest Lake's big trout having Chinook blood in their veins, so to speak. They run to size, and they have the will to battle. Me, I don't doubt it a bit.

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THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

919 Seventeenth Street, N. W.

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Where AFA Stands

(From page 4)

foresters maintained that the mismanagement or denudation of forest and range lands meant increased floods, erosion and sedimentation on the one hand and aggravated drought conditions on the other, along with the drying up of springs and streams. The engineers advanced the view that forest and range vegetation had little effect on the behavior of streams, and felt that flood control could be accomplished only through large engineering structures. Fortunately, these differences of opinion inspired a number of research projects designed to find out the real effects of vegetation and land management upon watershed conditions. By now, research has accumulated a substantial body of knowledge and has helped compromise many conflicting viewpoints.

The unbiased approach to the subject points up the importance of treating the whole watershed as a unit as is suggested in our Program for American Forestry quoted above. There is a definite place for large engineering works. There is likewise a definite place for proper upstream watershed development. The final answer will best be worked out by the combined approach.

A good sample of the results which can be obtained from such a combined approach is found in the Muskingum Valley of Ohio. This is well described in the article "Muskingum Revisited" by James B. Craig, editor, in the June 1954 issue of our monthly magazine, AMERICAN FORESTS. . . . This project has been a wonderful example of wholehearted cooperation between federal, state and local agencies and especially the people living on the land.

It also emphasizes the necessity for combining the knowledge and talents of specialists in a number of different fields in handling a problem of this kind. The Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch is charged with studying and investigating the present organization and methods of operation of all departments, bureaus, agencies, boards, commissions, offices, independent establishments and instrumentalities of the government, except the judiciary and the Congress of the United States, to determine what changes therein are necessary in their opinion to accomplish the

purposes set forth in Public Law 108 of the 83rd Congress. Among the purposes mentioned are eliminating duplication and overlapping services, activities and functions, and consolidating services, activities and functions of a similar nature. This is obviously a desirable aim. But in accomplishing it as respects watershed development, great care must be exercised to retain the broad range of skills required to plan and execute competently wise and economical whole watershed development. Thus, just as mechanical, electrical and civil engineering skills are required for managing water downstream for various purposes, so does upstream development need the skills associated with growing various cover crops and controlling damage by animals and from land use. Indeed, all groups which will affect, or will be affected by, the watershed development should be brought into the picture during the planning stage in order to make planning most effective.

In closing, I should like to repeat one of the recommendations quoted above from our Program for American Forestry; namely "Public agencies should provide for coordination of planning and application of watershed management and flood prevention measures on upstream forests, agricultural, and range lands with the construction of downstream flood control and water power development projects." We urge that the Task Force on Water Resources and Power take this into full consideration in their recommendations to the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government.

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Smith River Saga

(From page 23)

dences there were four saloons, a brewery, two stores, two hotels, a tannery and a salmon cannery. We had everything we needed."

The country along the Smith River is still as pretty as a picture. It is a lowland Shangri-La.

Much of the bottom land along the river has been cleared for cultivation or meadows and some of the old stumps from the logging of two generations ago have not completely decayed. With these minor exceptions, which blend harmoniously into the soft green of the virgin fir forest, there is little evidence that man has labored here for a hundred years.

The timber access road over which huge logging trucks will soon roll has been the subject of some lively local discussions. It is easy to understand why some local people are not happy about the new road. However, other local people say that the area must be opened to commercial development and that they will be happy just to get a good road.

The grim fact is, the access road had to be built. The headwaters of the Smith River have been found to be the largest and most critical area of blowdown and beetle-killed timber on the Pacific coast. The Bureau of Land Management estimates that it has 400 million board feet of blowdown timber and standing dead trees killed by the Douglasfir bark beetle epidemic.

The access road and the huge salvage project will serve three purposes—the dead timber will be removed while it still retains a high percentage of its value; the project will eventually make possible sustained-yield management for most of the forest in the Smith River drainage; and local woodworking communities needing raw material will have access to this new supply.

So, commercial necessity is reaching into yet another hidden and half-forgotten place. Soon the whine and staccato bark of power saws, the roar of skidding tractors, and the grind of heavily loaded logging trucks will fill the canyon where once the crack of the explorer's rifle and later the clear, sharp ring of the chopper's ax and slow "gee" and "haw" of the bullteam drivers echoed.

What will next unfold in the saga of the Smith River?

The California Elk

(From page 17)

to be just as much at home on terrain too bare for deer, where buffalo and antelope roamed with bands of wild horses and cattle. And it is a matter of history that vast herds of elk, surpassing even those of the Rocky Mountain parks and plateaus, abounded in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys in central California. There, miles from cover, the bulk of them occurring below a 500-foot level, they lived on the open plains. Prior to the discovery of gold in 1849, there was practically no demand on them, and the modes of hunting elk near the Pacific Coast were of the simplest. There were no greater hunters than the old Spanish Californians, men who had learned to lasso a grizzly by the light of the moon. To them, a gun seemed too ridiculously easy for such work; and, as they possessed the finest horses for hunting, to run down an elk was considered such child's play that they seldom bothered unless they wanted a change of meat. So they by-passed the herds of elk, roping one of their own cattle by preference. Left to these earliest settlers, the elk would have survived indefinitely in large numbers.

After the discovery of gold, the miners created a demand for meat. As they swarmed into California, they brought with them hordes of camp followers, gamblers, and adventurers. These newcomers constructed huge corrals with wings which extended for miles; into them, they drove wild cattle and horses, and many elk and antelope with them. Without rhyme or reason, they began to murder the elk by the thousands, and in San Francisco there was scarcely an eating house that did not feature a variety of wild game, with roasted elk prominently figured as a menu item. Some of the meat was sold fresh, some dried. Waste and destruction were the order of the day, as any loafer or adventurer could ride into a herd of elk, and kill the biggest bull by putting a pistol against his flank.

For, unlike the deer, the bewildered elk seemed incapable of outwitting his pursuers, but they did begin to take cover in the tule marshes along the streams. Tule is a sort of bulrush, a round, spongy

reed that grows to a height of 15 feet in shallow water. With a half dozen of these stalks to the square foot, a dense cover was created in which the elk might hide. Back of the tule, there was higher ground covered rankly with cattails and flags. At that time, there was plenty of this growth in the lakes and sloughs of the San Joaquin Valley, covering islands and also the banks of those rivers whose outlet was the San Francisco Bay.

So, instead of retreating with the deer to the greater safety of the mountain ranges, the elks concealed themselves in the tule swamps, and made great trails which ramified into intricate and unguessed waterways. As it was impossible for even a mounted hunter to see them, they were safe for a time.

Then came the draining of the swamps and marshes for agriculture, and the cover vanished. Once again it was the old story of the white man bent upon the destruction of the natural resources.

By the year 1875, the elk had become a curiosity on the plains; and by 1895, there remained only one small band south of Mendocino and Humboldt Counties. And while the grizzly still defied his pursuers, those 28 elk, sole survivors of countless thousands, found sanctuary on the Miller & Lux Ranch north of Bakersfield, and woe to any hunter who attempted to get past the stern guardianship of the ranch herdsmen.

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1924 it had increased to one hundred. Then they turned it over to the Elks' Lodge in Bakersfield; but this sponsorship by the Lodge meant only that any man who dared interfere with a single elk, would most certainly repent his act.

The California elk did not appear again until he made his last stand in the vast and remote silences of the Coast Redwoods, far from any trace of man and his works. There the giant trees, the world's oldest living things, received the persecuted creatures into their enormous undergrowth, and maintained them.

Yet, even to this uncomfortably wild terrain, came the white men, avid for heads, greedy for elk's teeth for watch charms. They set up salt licks as lures, unaware that elk care very little for salt. They brought their horses and dogs, but these did not alarm the elk—they feared only the stealthy step of man. Naturally a day feeder, the elk learned to browse at night. He ceased to lie out on sandbars during the day where he would have been able to avoid flies and mosquitoes; he who loved sunshine, sought the shade for greater protection. He had learned from "civilization—"

Then, at long last, the law stepped in—fortunately it was not too late to salvage a remnant of the species.

In 1939, when the United States Fish and Wildlife Service made a

census of selected game animals through the United States, the California inventory showed approximately 600 elk.

A later periodic survey, brought this number up to 900, although the Division of Fish and Game placed their estimate at 1128 elk, all told, distributed as follows:

Inyo County—400; Tule Elk Reserve, Kern County—87; San Luis Obispo County—100; Colusa County—101; Shasta County—40; and Humboldt County—400. There was an unestimated number in Monterey County.

It is gratifying to the lover of wildlife to know that the California elk is slightly on the increase, for there is nothing in Nature more thrilling than the bugling of a bull elk. The call is long-drawn and high-pitched like a siren, but of a beautiful bell-like quality resembling a bar of sustained music.

At the present time, the contour, vegetation, and population of the state are so changed that it is no longer feasible to allow immense herds of elk to roam at will. Therefore, many are now confined in huge refuges, where they are kept from interfering with man's interests by elk-proof fences. But the surviving elk are indeed well taken care of, for they enjoy, and will *continue* to enjoy, the rigid protection of the law.

Famous Forests

(From page 25)

a steel life raft, but they had no effect on balsa which depends for its buoyance on millions of tiny cells in all parts of each piece of wood.

Also, balsa was used as a filling in the wings of the British Mosquito Bomber, sandwiched between aluminum sheets. Today balsa is also being used as an aluminum sandwich filler in the new Chance Vought F7U-3 Cutlass, in certain parts of the construction.

Balsa is an excellent insulation against heat, cold, vibration, and electricity, and it is used as a packing material for air shipments, hat blocks, insulation in freight cars, refrigerators, and trucks. It is also used for bulletin boards, toys, advertising displays, artificial limbs, sound proofing, etc. And, as we were saying, it saves a lot of actors' lives. Not long ago out in Hollywood Jerry Lewis was thrown through a wall—but both the door and surrounding 2 x 4's were made of balsa.

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What's NEWS across the nation

SIX CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS WHOSE CUMULATIVE SPHERES OF INFLUENCE ADD UP to millions of American citizens on June 16 called on Secretary McKay to withdraw his department's advocacy of Echo Park Dam in Dinosaur National Monument. Facing up to a barrage of questioning from newspapermen, many of them from cities in the Colorado River Project area, the conservation group led by Dr. Ira Gabrielson, president, Wildlife Management Institute, declared that Interior's case for the dam in a national monument has collapsed with the admission by Under Secretary Ralph Tudor that evaporation losses at alternate sites were not as serious as originally reported to the country and must now be "recalculated." The group stressed that it was not opposed to the Colorado River Storage project, of which Echo Park would be only one small part, but felt that if certain western interests want a reservoir lake they ought to build it someplace else than in a national monument.

ANOTHER ROCK ON WHICH THE CONSERVATION GROUPS RESTED THEIR CASE was the 1916 statute that established the National Park Service. This statute sets forth that these natural areas must be left "unimpaired" for the enjoyment of future generations. In pressing for Echo Park Dam, Interior is violating this statute as well as liquidating a monument area it is pledged to protect, the conservationists said. When one western newspaperman suggested that Dinosaur Monument, after all, was "just scenery," Dr. Gabrielson replied that some 40 million people who visited parks and monuments last year would doubtless be interested in his observation. Participants in this conservation version of "Meet the Press" were Dr. Gabrielson; Charles Callison, National Wildlife Federation; General U. S. Grant III, American Planning and Civic Association; Michael Hudoba, Outdoor Writers Association; and Howard Zahniser, Wilderness Society.

SINCE ACTIVATION OF AFA'S NEW "PROGRAM FOR FORESTRY" HINGES IN PART on a strong forestry budget for the federal services for 1955, AFA in recent months has been making the strongest possible presentations to the appropriations committees in both Houses of Congress urging that the forestry line be strengthened and pointing out that cuts at this time would be injurious to the overall pattern for forestry progress. That presentations made to the appropriations committees of both Houses by Executive Director-Forester Lowell Besley have paid off handsomely was clearly shown last month with announcement by the Senate Appropriations Committee that it has tacked on increases of \$2,689,317 on the Appropriations Bill (H.R. 8779) that had already been substantially increased by the House. In reviewing original budget estimates as compared to the latest action by the House and the Senate committees, it is apparent that practically all of the recommendations made by Mr. Besley have been closely followed and that original budget estimates for forestry have either been restored or in a number of cases increased.

A STAMP TO DRAMATIZE THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST INSECT PESTS has been requested by the Centennial Commemoration Committee of the Profession of Entomology, headed by David G. Hall, of the Agricultural Research Service, Department of Agriculture. There seems to be a good chance that Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield will grant the appeal. Such a stamp was first proposed last November and the petition was renewed by the committee in February.

(Turn to next page)

NEWS ACROSS THE NATION-(Continued)

"OUR CHANGING FORESTS" WILL BE THE THEME OF THE 54TH ANNUAL MEETING of the Society of American foresters to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 24-27. Headquarters will be the Schroeder Hotel. President E. L. Demmon, of the Forest Service, will open the general session. Eleven technical sessions have been scheduled. The Society is planning for an attendance of 1000 members and guests from all over the United States and Canada.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AT IOWA STATE COLLEGE, Ames, Iowa, will observe its 50th anniversary October 15 and 16. The event will feature dedication of a memorial to Professor G. B. MacDonald, who headed the department from 1910 to 1948. DeWitt Nelson, director of the California Department of Natural Resources and vice president of the Society of American Foresters, will be one of the principal speakers.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE ON JUNE 4 CONFERRED AN HONORARY DEGREE on Walter J. Damtoft, of Canton, a vice president of the Champion Paper and Fibre Company and of The American Forestry Association. Others who were similarly honored included Secretary of the Army Robert T. Stevens; R. Buckminster Fuller, inventor and designer; D. J. W. Turrentine, president emeritus, American Potash Institute; and James T. Ryan, executive vice president, Southern Furniture Manufacturers Association.

WHY DON'T THE PEOPLE WHO ARE PLUGGING FOR A PARKWAY ALONG MARYLAND'S HISTORIC C & O Canal advocate using the prodigious sum that would be required to improve existing roads in the state that would permit development of the canal route as a recreation and historical entity, asked Howard Zahniser, of the Wilderness Society, at last month's hearing called by the National Capital Regional Planning Council. Zahniser said his group backed the findings of a newly organized C & O Canal Committee formed as a result of Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas' trek along the historic canal route.

A COMBINED STUDY PROGRAM LEADING TO DEGREES in both business administration and natural resources has been announced by University of Michigan Deans Russell A. Stevenson and Stanley G. Fontanna. Under terms of the program, a bachelor's degree is awarded by the School of Natural Resources for four years work in its courses. A student who has finished this curriculum, and has also had the proper choice of electives, can then earn a Master of Business Administration degree in one additional year. Importance of this new development was explained by Natural Resources Dean Fontanna. "The production and utilization of natural resources requires a high degree of competence in both technological and business areas," he said.

THE ANNUAL WORK CONFERENCE OF THE CONSERVATION EDUCATION ASSOCIATION is scheduled for August 21-25 on the campus of the University of Wyoming at Laramie. Topic of the conference, will be "Teacher Education in Conservation." Purpose of the CEA, organized last year, is to stimulate the development of sound education through resource use. Dr. A. G. Peterson, president of Eastern Montana College of Education, is president of the association.

BONA FIDE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT COOPERATORS are being invited to participate in the 1954 Speaking Contest sponsored by the association and the Spencer Chemical Company on the subject, "Water Problems in My Soil Conservation District and on My Farm (or Ranch)." A total of \$2400 in prizes will be awarded and all entries must reach National Headquarters, League City, Texas, not later than midnight, December 10, 1954. National grand prize for the best entry will be \$1000 and an all-expense trip to the ninth annual convention of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts at San Diego, California, February 1-5, 1955.

A CITATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE HAS BEEN AWARDED TO WALTER H. HORNING, Chief, Bureau of the Division of Forestry in the Interior Department, by Secretary McKay. The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor conferred by the Department and was presented to Mr. Horning "in recognition of outstanding service in the management and protection of natural resources."

THE COMPLETION OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY'S Hall of North American Mammals was marked in May with a dedication ceremony. Conceived more than 20 years ago to serve as an enduring representation of the mammals of this continent the Hall is one of the most outstanding in the world.

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H. B. Shepard—Massachusetts, Forest Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

M. N. Taylor—Wisconsin, Executive Director Trees for Tomorrow, Inc.

Peter E. Tersick—Indiana, editor, *The Carpenter* magazine.

Lyle F. Watts—Oregon, Former Chief, U. S. Forest Service, Retired.

Peter F. Watsok—Arkansas, President, The Crossett Company.

Central Park

(From page 12)

land between 78th and 79th Streets, facing the Park. In 1852 it sold for \$3000. The next year, when it looked as though legislation for the Park would pass, it sold for \$4500; after the legislation passed it sold for \$10,000—four years later for \$40,000—and 12 years later the owner refused a million and a quarter for it! As to what the land on which Central Park is located is worth today—a guess of a billion dollars is as good as any—but of course it's only worth that because the Park is there.

In a generation in which the cultural and aesthetic value of any project had to be proved in dollars and cents, such figures as these were powerful arguments indeed, and in the years following the building of Central Park, many other cities all over the country started similar major parks.

In 1869 a booklet printed in the office of the *American Builder* in Chicago discussed Central Park and suggested that other cities should follow suit.

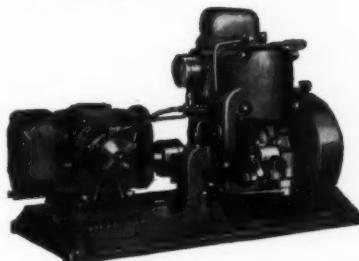
"New York has set the fashion in Central Park" the writer said, "and her sisters perceive that it becomes her, and so, forsooth they must adorn themselves in like manner . . . Philadelphia who is always jealous if New York adds a new flounce to her dress is, of course, the first to endeavor to surpass her in magnificence and has projected a park . . . which will be one of the grandest works of its kind in the world. . ." (Very likely this was Fairmount Park.)

Possibly because of the success of Central Park we do have today many large and beautiful parks all over America—but like New York's Big Back Yard they too have had to put up a constant fight for their lives. While real estate projects and crackpot "memorials" are not as much of a menace as they once were, we now have thruway engineers threatening to lay down wide bands of concrete regardless of what they do to the natural beauty of a park which is in their way.

So the fight to preserve even a few small acres of unspoiled landscape is endless—and at times seems hopeless. The only encouraging aspect of the situation is that Americans are becoming increasingly aware of the priceless value of their heritage, and so increasingly reluctant to see it destroyed.

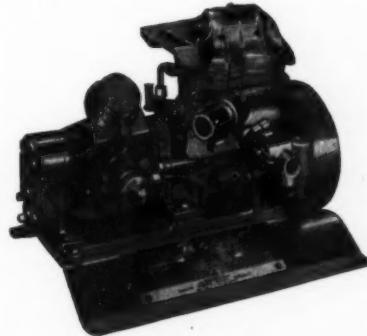
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Feature Photo of the Month

Photos used on this page will be of unusual rather than esthetic qualities and subject matter will be restricted to scenes, events, objects or persons related to the use, enjoyment or unique aspects of our renewable natural resources. For each picture selected AMERICAN FORESTS will pay \$10.



Photo submitted by Robert F. Chrismar

Were it not for the fact that this white oak growing near Appomattox, Virginia is a bit large it might very well serve as a candelabra in someone's living room



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ON THIS selective logging operation at Nasty Creek, Washington, the Cascade Lumber Co. is using a Caterpillar D6 Tractor with Fleco root rake to pile brush and slash. Also in the company's line-up on this job are two D7s and another D6. Clayton Wimer, Cascade's Yakima Logging Super, says: "The D6 is the ideal machine for this work. It's very efficient and easy to handle."

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